

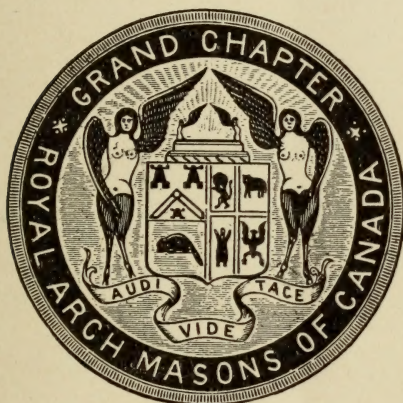
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PROCEEDINGS OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch
Masons of Canada

AT THE
Sixty-Eighth Annual Convocation

A.D. 1926




A. Inv. 2456

Held in Masonic Temple, 888 Yonge Street
City of Toronto, Ontario
Wednesday and Thursday, February 24th and 25th,
A.D. 1926, A. Inv. 2456

Ordered to be read in all Chapters and preserved

KENNETH J. DUNSTAN
Toronto, Ont.
Grand Z.

HENRY T. SMITH
Toronto, Ont.
Grand Scribe E.



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M. E. COMP. KENNETH J. DUNSTAN
Grand First Principal Z.

KENNETH JEWELL DUNSTAN

The election of M. Ex. Comp. Kenneth Jewell Dunstan to the great office of Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada is the fitting culmination of a distinguished career in the Royal Craft. It may be stated without fear of contradiction that no Mason has better qualifications than he. Whether regarded as an Executive, as a Masonic scholar, as a public speaker, or as a democratic ruler of men, he will be found to be easily in the front rank.

He was born in the truly Masonic City of Hamilton, and spent his early life there. Initiated into Masonry on the 8th April, 1890, in Temple Lodge, Hamilton, he recalls that Bro. Adam Brown, who recently died in his 100th year, was initiated in that Lodge a few weeks later, on the same night that he (Dunstan) received his third degree. In 1891, having then been in the service of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada in Hamilton for some years, he was promoted to the managership of the Toronto branch of that Company's business, and he has lived in Toronto ever since. He is now vice-president of the company and general manager for Ontario.

His Masonic career, begun in Hamilton, was continued in Toronto. He affiliated with Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto, and was soon in office. He was exalted in St. Paul's Chapter, Toronto, in the late nineties; was Master of Ionic in 1904 and First Principal of St. Paul's in 1907. He is a Past Grand Senior Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Canada (In Ontario) and was the first president of the Past Masters' Association of Toronto. His first Grand Chapter elective office was that of Grand Scribe N.; in 1922 he was elected Grand Third Principal; in 1924 Grand Second Principal; and he now becomes, in due course of elective promotion, Grand First Principal. The Jurisdiction over which he rules, though now largely confined to Ontario, is yet a large one both in territory and population.

Active as he has been in Masonry, his activities extend far beyond that sphere. The following, it is believed, is but an incomplete list of the offices he has held or still holds in various important organized bodies:—

Vice-president of Bell Telephone Company of Canada.

Honorary Member Telephone Pioneers of Ontario.

Past President of the Canadian Electrical Association.

Past President Toronto Board of Trade.

Past President Toronto Civic Guild.

Past President College Heights Association.

Vice-President City Improvement Committee, 1909.

President Toronto Red Cross Society throughout the War. Went to England and France during War as representative of Red Cross.

Past President Canadian Club.

Past President Toronto Electric Club.

On Executive of Empire Club.

On Executive of Ontario Tourist Association.

Past Director Weston Golf and Country Club.

On Board of Governors Toronto and District Cricket Council.

President or Vice-president of several Cricket Clubs.

Comment would be superfluous.

It is acknowledged by all that he has executive ability of the highest order, a wonderful and inspiring gift of speech, untiring industry, and above all a true Masonic heart. Service is his watch-word.

Grand Chapter of Canada

PROCEEDINGS

THE SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA WAS HELD IN THE MASONIC TEMPLE, CITY OF TORONTO, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, FEBRUARY, 24TH AND 25TH, A.D., 1926, A. INV. 2456.

PRESENT

M. Ex. Comp.	W. H. Davis	.....	Grand Z.	} Grand Council
R. " "	K. J. Dunstan	.....	Grand H.	
R. " "	Edwin Smith	.....	Grand J.	
M. " "	George Moore	.....	Grand Treasurer	
R. " "	Henry T. Smith	.....	Grand Scribe E.	
R. " "	Charles Gilbert	.....	Grand Scribe N.	
R. " "	A. J. Brown	.....	Grand Principal Sojourner	
V. " "	A. D. MacIntyre	.....	as Grand Registrar	
M. " "	W. N. Ponton	.....	Grand Historian	
	Hiram Pritchard	.....	Grand Janitor	
R. " "	J. B. Nixon	.....	Grand Lecturer	
V. " "	Thomas Towers	.....	Grand Senior Sojourner	
	G. C. Kirby	.....	as Grand Junior Sojourner	
V. " "	James Shrubsole	.....	as Grand Sword Bearer	
V. " "	R. R. Hopkins	.....	as Grand Master 1st Veil	
	George Slack	.....	as Grand Master 2nd Veil	
	J. J. McGee	.....	as Grand Master 3rd Veil	
V. " "	Arthur J. Wood	.....	as Grand Master 4th Veil	
	J. M. Aiken	.....	as Grand Standard Bearer	
V. " "	L. F. Stephens	.....	as Grand Dir. of Ceremonies	
	Herman Ploss	.....	as Grand Organist	
V. " "	George G. Elliott	.....	as Grand Pursuivant	
V. " "	J. A. Thompson	.....	as Grand Steward	
	S. Patterson	.....	as Grand Steward	
	T. P. Lancaster	.....	as Grand Steward	
	R. Carson	.....	as Grand Steward	
	R. H. Ashton	.....	as Grand Steward	
	J. E. Colson	.....	as Grand Steward	
	W. R. Cooper	.....	as Grand Steward	
	L. E. Edmonds	.....	as Grand Steward	
V. " "	T. H. Graham	.....	as Grand Steward	
V. " "	W. C. Norman	.....	as Grand Steward	

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS

R. Ex. Comp.	John L. Rutherford	Blenheim	Dist. No.	1
" "	Edwin R. MacNeill	Strathroy	"	2
" "	Samuel W. Seago	Brantford	"	3
" "	Strachan D. Croft	Durham	"	4
" "	Sidney S. Forbes	Hamilton	"	5
" "	Fred. T. Armstrong	Lucknow	"	6
" "	John W. Holstock	Welland	"	7
" "	C. H. C. Wright	Toronto	"	8
" "	J. Austin Evans	Toronto	"	8a
" "	John T. Andrews	Bracebridge	"	9
" "	Chas. L. Davidson	Lindsay	"	10
" "	Harvey J. Milne	Kingston	"	12
" "	John Gray	Ottawa	"	13
" "	Oliver Coles	Fort William	"	14
" "	Frank K. Ebbitt	Iroquois Falls	"	15

GRAND CHAPTER OPENED

A Constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Sixty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in AMPLE FORM at 10 o'clock a.m.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

R. Ex. Comp. C. W. Haentschel, Chairman of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies from Chapters, reported that there were 153 Warranted Chapters on the Roll of Grand Chapter, of which 135 were represented by the following Companions:—

- No. 1. *Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui,
Kingston.*
Ex. Comps. F. G. Moxley, Z.; J. Pearson, R. Ex.
Comps. H. J. Milne, W. Y. Mills, P.Z.'s.
- No. 2. *The Hiram, Hamilton.*
V. Ex. Comp. Thomas Towers; R. Ex. Comp. Frank
Hills, M. Ex. Comp. Geo. Moore (Proxy), P.Z.'s.
- No. 3. *St. John's, London.*
Ex. Comp. Sam McCoy, Z.; C. E. A. Webbe, R. Ex.
Comps. Charles Gilbert, O. Ellwood, John Graham,
Thos. Rowe, P.Z.'s.

- No. 4. *St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. G. G. Sheppard, Z.; E. W. Knee, H.; W. L. Lankin, J.; Geo. W. Slack, G. C. Kirby, W. W. Ash, W. H. Ewing; V. Ex. Comps. H. S. King, B. J. Miller, C. W. Matthews, Oscar H. King; R. Ex. Comps. E. Lankin, Henry T. Smith, R. W. Clelow, P.Z.'s.
- No. 5. *St. George's, London.*
Ex. Comp. H. E. Livermore; R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith (Proxy), P.Z.'s.
- No. 6. *St. John's, Hamilton.*
Ex. Comps. W. A. Stephenson (Proxy), G. W. Britton; R. Ex. Comp. W. M. Logan, P.Z.'s.
- No. 7. *The Moira, Belleville.*
Ex. Comps. W. W. Anderson, Z.; Harold McElrath, J.
- No. 8. *King Solomon's, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. A. Crawford, Z.; W. C. Gowland, E.W. Barber, W. H. Roberts, F. D. Hunt, Alfred Davis, John Stephens, H. B. Shortt, W. H. Hoare, A. S. Elliott; V. Ex. Comps. Joseph Doust, A. H. Loughheed, D. McDonald, L. E. Bowerman, C. H. B. Johnson; R. Ex. Comps. E. M. Carleton, Wm. Stinson, Geo. McLeish, A. L. Tinker, J. B. Nixon; M. Ex. Comp. E. T. Malone, P.Z.'s.
- No. 15. *Wawanosh, Sarnia.*
Ex. Comps. C. H. Hughes, Z.; A. Lickorish, P.Z.
- No. 16. *Carleton, Ottawa.*
Ex. Comp. H. A. McCallum, Z.; R. Ex. Comps. John Gray, A. W. Grant, P.Z.'s.
- No. 18. *Oxford, Woodstock.*
Ex. Comps. R. A. Marsh, Z.; J. Stiling, H.; J. Jupp, R. Ex. Comps. M. E. Sherwood, R. Y. Morrison (Proxy), P.Z.'s.
- No. 19. *Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.*
Ex. Comps. H. McKay, John Herod (Proxy), R. Ex. Comp. A. N. Lindsay, P.Z.'s.
- No. 20. *Mount Horeb, Brantford.*
Ex. Comps. E. Franklin, Z.; H. Tetlaw, H.; R. Ex. Comp. S. W. Seago, P.Z.

- No. 22. *Grenville, Prescott.*
Ex. Comps. J. E. Williams, Z.; F. W. Elliott, P.Z.
- No. 23. *Ezra, Simcoe.*
Ex. Comp. D. F. Aiken, Z.
- No. 24. *Tecumseh, Stratford.*
Ex. Comp. D. Davidson, Z.
- No. 26. *St. Mark's, Trenton.*
Ex. Comps. A. W. Kinnear, Z.; Jas. Shurie; V. Ex. Comp. A. D. McIntyre; R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Potts; M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer, P.Z.'s.
- No. 27. *Manitou, Collingwood.*
Ex. Comps. E. Walker, Z.; A. W. Lawrence; V. Ex. Comps. W. H. Whipps, Robt. Hughes, R. E. Robertson, P.Z.'s.
- No. 28. *Pentalpha, Oshawa.*
Ex. Comps. N. W. Purdy, Z.; O. M. Alger, H.; D. A. Hubbell, J.; H. M. Black, C. C. Stenhouse, D. Ross; R. Ex. Comp. A. E. Henry, P.Z.'s.
- No. 29. *McCallum, Dunnville.*
R. Ex. Comps. G. E. Parkes (Proxy), R. W. G. Conolly, P.Z.'s.
- No. 30. *Huron, Goderich.*
Ex. Comp. Geo. McVicar, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. H. C. Dunlop, P.Z.
- No. 31. *Prince Edward, Picton.*
Ex. Comp. James Wright, Z.
- No. 32. *Waterloo, Galt.*
R. Ex. Comp. Thos F. Campbell (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 34. *Signet, Barrie.*
Ex. Comp. O. D. Williams, J.; V. Ex. Comp. James Shrubsole (Proxy), R. Ex. Comps. F. W. Otton, A. Cowan, P.Z.'s.
- No. 35. *Keystone, Whitby.*
Ex. Comps. S. J. Spall, Z.; R. K. Lawrence, H.; F. T. Rowe, J.; W. F. Harden, F. J. Gale, W. M. Jermyn, Robt. McNee, G. W. P. Every, A. T. Lawler, G. M. Goodfellow, John W. Bateman, J. J. Moore; R. Ex. Comp. W. M. VanValkenburgh, P.Z.'s.

- No. 36. *Corinthian, Peterboro.*
V. Ex. Comp. J. D. Cameron; R. Ex. Comps. W. A. Logan (Proxy), C. B. Adair, P.Z.'s.
- No. 37. *Victoria, Port Hope.*
Ex. Comps. W. F. McMahon, Z.; H. J. C. Beatty, J.; V. Ex. Comps. R. W. Smart, F. H. Brown; R. Ex. Comp. C. S. Hamly, P.Z.'s
- No. 40. *Guelph, Guelph.*
Ex. Comp. C. T. Palmer, Z.; T. E. Cotton, W. F. Drone; R. Ex. Comp. J. F. Marr, P.Z.'s.
- No. 41. *Harris, Ingersoll.*
R. Ex. Comp. R. H. Reid (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 44. *Mount Sinai, Napanee.*
Ex. Comp. C. A. Walters, P.Z.
- No. 45. *Excelsior, Colborne.*
Ex. Comp. J. T. Gordon (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 46. *St. James, St. Marys.*
Ex. Comp. J. M. Empey, P.Z.
- No. 47. *Wellington, Chatham.*
Ex. Comp. Leonard H. Holmes, Z.; V. Ex. Comp. J. G. Martin, P.Z.
- No. 48. *St. John's Cobourg.*
Ex. Comps. W. S. Cooper, H.; F. D. Greer, J.; A. E. Challis, J. W. Spragge, F. R. Drewry, M. A. Hewson, P.Z.'s.
- No. 53. *Bruce, Petrolia.*
Ex. Comp. J. C. Reid, Z.
- No. 54. *Palestine, St. Thomas.*
Ex. Comp. Robt. Simpson, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. T. L. Cochrane, N. W. Ford, P.Z.'s.
- No. 55. *Niagara, Niagara.*
V. Ex. Comp. A. J. Wood, P.Z.
- No. 57. *King Hiram, Port Colborne.*
R. Ex. Comp. D. H. McCracken (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 58. *Pembroke, Mattawa.*
R. Ex. Comp. C. W. Haentschel (Proxy), P.Z.

- No. 59. *Sussex, Brockville.*
Ex. Comp. W. J. Clements, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. A. L. Stein, P.Z.
- No. 60. *Doric, Newmarket.*
Ex. Comp. W. C. Brown, J.
- No. 61. *Granite, Almonte.*
R. Ex. Comp. John Gray (Proxy).
- No. 62. *York, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. A. B. Dalby, Z.; J. Ward, F. Markham, Chas. Murphy, W. E. Hofland, J. J. Madden; V. Ex. Comps. C. F. Brookes, W. C. Norman, W. Duncan, D. Robertson; R. Ex. Comp. A. J. Brown, P.Z.'s.
- No. 63. *Havelock, Kincardine,*
Ex. Comps. Peter McCallum, Z.; F. C. Schilroth, H.; R. Ex. Comp. R. W. Clements, P.Z.
- No. 64. *Willson, Welland.*
Ex. Comp. J. F. Thorpe (Proxy); R. Ex. Comp. J. W. Holstock, P.Z.'s.
- No. 65. *St. Paul's, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. Morgan Griffiths, Z.; C. P. Smith, A. W. Laughlen, Thos. Wibby; V. Ex. Comp. John McKnight; R. Ex. Comps. A. F. Webster, K. J. Dunstan, E. W. E. Saunders, R. J. Reade, L. F. Riggs, W. J. McCollum, E. B. Brown; M. Ex. Comp. F. W. Harcourt, P.Z.'s.
- No. 66. *The Malloch, Seaforth.*
Ex. Comp. H. J. Thompson, P.Z.
- No. 67. *Enterprise, Palmerston.*
Ex. Comps. J. Youngson, Z.; Theo Morris, R. G. Barton, A. Beetlestone, Harold Hall, P.Z.'s.
- No. 69. *Grimsby, Grimsby.*
Ex. Comps. E. H. Culp, H.; Frank E. Russ; R. Ex. Comp. Jas. A. Wray, P.Z.'s.
- No. 70. *Grand River, Bracebridge.*
Ex. Comp. Wm. Chas. Fryer (Proxy); R. Ex. Comp. John T. Andrews, P.Z.'s.
- No. 72. *Keystone, Stirling.*
Ex. Comps J. N. West, Z.; T. W. Solmes, P.Z.

- No. 73. *Erie, Ridgetown.*
Ex. Comp. P. L. Clark, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. D. R. McDiarmid, P.Z.
- No. 74. *Beaver, Stratford.*
Ex. Comp. E. T. Lewis; R. Ex. Comp. E. R. McNeill (Proxy), P.Z.'s.
- No. 75. *St. Clair, Milton.*
Ex. Comps. E. B. Graham, Z.; J. E. Bell, H.; Geo. Galbraith, M. S. Sproat, J. M. Mackenzie; V. Ex. Comp. S. R. Bews; R. Ex. Comp. Wm. Panton, P.Z.'s.
- No. 76. *Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls.*
Ex. Comp. C. H. Sheppard, Z.
- No. 77. *Occident, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. Harry Parker, Z.; J. A. Graveley, J.; R. L. Shriner, I. T. Stickwood, T. J. MacKeown, J. H. Corner, John Russell, J. W. Lawrence, W. D. Sprinks; V. Ex. Comps. W. G. Varty, S. G. Newdick; R. Ex. Comps. E. J. Repath, G. K. Clemens, J. W. Hickson, P.Z.'s.
- No. 79. *Orient, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. C. H. G. Fletcher, Z.; A. H. Jones, H.; F. G. Russell, G. W. Wood, G. F. Weston; V. Ex. Comp. E. J. Wright; R. Ex. Comps. G. B. Foster, D. S. L. MacDougall, P.Z.'s.
- No. 80. *Ark, Windsor.*
Ex. Comp. H. Waddington, H.
- No. 81. *Aylmer, Aylmer.*
Ex. Comp. L. H. Grandy Z.
- No. 82. *Shuniah, Port Arthur.*
Ex. Comp. H. Stanworth, Z.
- No. 83. *Ionic, Orangeville.*
Ex. Comps. J. M. Aiken, Z.; S. H. Porter, H.; W. W. Marshall, J.; A. T. Howard, J. B. Adamson, P.Z.'s.
- No. 84. *Lebanon, Wingham.*
Ex. Comp. John J. McGee, Z.
- No. 86. *Macpherson, Meaford.*
Ex. Comp. T. Topp (Proxy), P.Z.

- No. 88. *MacNabb, Dresden.*
R. Ex. Comp. Ed. Worth, P.Z.
- No. 90. *Golden, Kenora.*
M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer (Proxy).
- No. 91. *Antiquity, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. W. F. Bowerman, Z.; J. A. Burnett, H.;
J. J. Herb, J.; P. K. Perry, A. G. Fletcher, H. S.
McHenry, R. J. Hoidge; V. Ex. Comps. E. J. Luttrell,
Jas. Herriot; R. Ex. Comps. W. J. Armstrong, G. G.
Rowe, W. J. Lake, P.Z.'s.
- No. 94. *Midland, Lindsay.*
Ex. Comps. R. W. Groves, A. T. Porter (Proxy);
R. Ex. Comp. C. L. Davidson, P.Z.'s.
- No. 95. *Tuscan, Sudbury.*
Ex. Comp. Jas. A. Orr (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 100. *St. Lawrence, Brockville.*
Ex. Comp. A. D. Currie, Z.
- No. 102. *Algonquin, Sault Ste. Marie.*
Ex. Comp. L. E. Edmonds, Z.; V. Ex. Comp. J. B.
Way, P.Z.
- No. 103. *St. John's, North Bay.*
Ex. Comp. J. A. Smith, P.Z.
- No. 112. *St. John's, Morrisburg.*
Ex. Comp. R. H. Ashton, Z.
- No. 113. *Covenant, Cornwall.*
Ex. Comp. W. Harvey McNairn (Proxy).
- No. 114. *Bonnechere, Renfrew.*
Ex. Comp. J. E. Colson, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. J. Conley,
P.Z.
- No. 115. *Brant, Paris.*
Ex. Comps. W. W. Tough, J.; B. E. Brown, Roy
Stephenson, R. Ex. Comps. J. R. Inkster, W. J.
Logie, P.Z.'s.
- No. 116. *Maple, Carleton Place.*
R. Ex. Comp. D. H. McIntosh (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 117. *Kitchener, Kitchener.*
Ex. Comp. W. R. Cooper, Z.; E. J. Payson, J.; J. H.
Hallman, P.Z.

- No. 120. *Elliot, Mitchell.*
Ex. Comp. F. Porterfield (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 130. *Chantry, Southampton.*
Ex. Comp. G. W. Speare (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 133. *St. Francis, Smith's Falls.*
Ex. Comp. John J. Gardiner, Z.; V. Ex. Comp. W. H. Wilson; R. Ex. Comp. H. W. Auger, P.Z.'s.
- No. 134. *King Darius, Cannington.*
Ex. Comp. Howard Keslick, H.
- No. 135. *Succoth, Uxbridge.*
Ex. Comp. H. H. Mulligan, Z.; W. E. Tummonds, R. Ex. Comp. V. M. Hare, P.Z.'s.
- No. 138. *Shekinah, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. C. W. Long, Z.; P. M. Grant, J. T. McMulkin; V. Ex. Comps. G. G. Elliott, G. W. Clendenan, R. R. Hopkins; R. Ex. Comps. W. J. Wadsworth (Proxy), John Marr, P.Z.'s.
- No. 139. *St. Andrew's, Havelock.*
Ex. Comps. T. P. Lancaster, Z.; W. Anderson, J.; H. R. Butterill, J. F. Breckenridge, P.Z.'s.
- No. 140. *Fort William, Fort William.*
Ex. Comp. Robt. Carson, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. Oliver Coles, P.Z.
- No. 144. *Presque Isle, Brighton.*
Ex. Comp. F. J. Harnden, Z.
- No. 145. *The St. Patrick, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. Geo. W. Wilson, Z.; Frank McLean, H.; H. W. Thompson, J.; W. J. Tow, E. E. Reid, J. P. Spragge, H. F. Cowan, P. W. Rogers, R. H. Dee; V. Ex. Comps. T. C. S. Harrison, T. H. Graham, John A. Cowan, W. R. Ledger, H. P. Reid; R. Ex. Comps. Wm. Croft, J. J. Shelley, B. Cairns, P.Z.'s.
- No. 146. *Bernard, Listowel.*
Ex. Comp. Wm. Donaldson, Z.
- No. 147. *Lucknow, Lucknow.*
Ex. Comp. J. W. Joynt; R. Ex. Comp. F. T. Armstrong, P.Z.'s.

- No. 150. *London, London.*
Ex. Comps. George Garrow, Z.; T. W. Copp, R. Ex. Comps. L. W. Boss, J. H. C. Woodward, P.Z.'s.
- No. 151. *Laurentian, Pembroke.*
Ex. Comp. L. H. Logan, Z.
- No. 152. *Alberton, Fort Frances.*
R. Ex. Comp. Oliver Coles (Proxy).
- No. 153. *Sombra, Wallaceburg.*
Ex. Comp. A. W. Deem, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. John Boyd, P.Z.
- No. 154. *Klondike, Dawson.*
R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith (Proxy).
- No. 161. *Madoc, Madoc.*
Ex. Comp. W. F. Nugent, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Hill, P.Z.
- No. 163. *The Beaches, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. A. M. Bond, Z.; G. E. Dodd, H.; C. H. Smart, J.; E. C. Berkinshaw, J. L. Curran, A. J. Stringer, D. Reid, Fraser Mathews; R. Ex. Comp. Geo. L. Gardiner, P.Z.'s.
- No. 167. *Kichikewana, Midland.*
Ex. Comps. R. R. Wilson, Z.; H. J. Thompson, J. G. Mohan, Geo. Blackburn, T. C. Luke; R. Ex. Comp. R. Raikes, P.Z.'s.
- No. 168. *Ionic, Campbellford.*
Ex. Comp. Geo. A. Kingston, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. I. A. Humphries, P.Z.
- No. 169. *Temiskaming, New Liskeard.*
Ex. Comp. J. G. McMillan (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 175. *The Hamilton, Hamilton.*
V. Ex. Comp. L. F. Stephens; M. Ex. Comp. W. H. Davis (Proxy), P.Z.'s.
- No. 184. *Hugh Murray, Bridgeburg.*
Ex. Comp. H. W. Jamison, Z.; J. G. Watts, P.Z.
- No. 185. *Toronto, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. Thos. R. Hughes, Z.; Chas. Wheat, David Colman, W. G. Morrison, W. J. Dunlop, F. C. Becker, G. M. Hermiston; V. Ex. Comp. J. M. Malcolm; R. Ex. Comp. R. W. Brennan, P.Z.'s.

- No. 195. *Peel, Brampton.*
Ex. Comp. C. R. Magee, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. R. W. Lowry, P.Z.
- No. 198. *Couchiching, Orillia.*
Ex. Comps. Wm. Calvert, Z.; H. S. Fenton, A. McClellan, P.Z.'s.
- No. 203. *Cobalt, Cobalt.*
Ex. Comp. K. D. MacKay, Z.
- No. 205. *Victoria, Thornhill.*
Ex. Comps. G. H. Duncan, Z.; W. H. Legge, J. E. Francis; V. Ex. Comp. J. A. Thompson (Proxy), R. Ex. Comps. E. A. James, H. H. Lang, P.Z.'s.
- No. 212. *Mount Sinai, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. Abraham M. Clavir, Z.; Harry R. Fox, H.; W. Moull, M. G. Cohen, A. Brookstone; V. Ex. Comp. Isador Finberg, P.Z.'s.
- No. 213. *Northern Lights, Timmins.*
Ex. Comps. J. W. Morrison, Z.; Geo. Murphy, P.Z.
- No. 215. *Mimico, Mimico.*
Ex. Comps. W. H. Danter, Z.; R. Malloch (Proxy), P. Weise, E. F. Stoll, P.Z.'s.
- No. 217. *St. Alban's, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. Wm. Hughes, Z.; T. E. C. Butler, J. A. Cooper, John L. House, Fred Clinckett, P.Z.'s.
- No. 218. *Prince Edward, Shelburne.*
Ex. Comp. S. Patterson, H.
- No. 219. *Ulster, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. A. MacDonald, H.; W. Steen, W. McKee, W. Phillips; R. Ex. Comp. A. G. Horwood (Proxy), P.Z.'s.
- No. 220. *Lebanon, Lambton Mills.*
Ex. Comps. N. F. D. Kelley, H.; J. F. Molloy, J.; R. Ex. Comp. J. Austin Evans, P.Z.
- No. 221. *Durham, Durham.*
Ex. Comps. W. C. Pickering, Z.; W. S. Hunter, E. D. McClocklin; R. Ex. Comp. S. D. Croft, P.Z.'s.

- No. 222. *Ottawa, Ottawa.*
Ex. Comp. E. R. Eastman, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. D. A. Clark, P.Z.
- No. 223. *Abitibi, Iroquois Falls.*
Ex. Comp. Jas. R. Spence, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. F. K. Ebbitt, P.Z.
- No. 224. *Keystone, Hamilton.*
Ex. Comp. Fred. R. Martin; V. Ex. Comp. Paul E. Lumsdon (Proxy), P.Z.'s.
- No. 225. *Beaver, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. E. S. Calder, Z.; W. G. Anderson, H.; J. Alcorn, J.; H. A. Miller, J. E. Baker, G. H. Creber, C. F. Bolton, P.Z.'s.
- No. 226. *Prince of Wales, Perth.*
Ex. Comps. J. Rubenstein, Z.; W. E. Thornton, F. C. Avery, John A. Hope, P.Z.'s.
- No. 227. *Quinte Friendship, Belleville.*
Ex. Comp. J. W. Kinneear, Z.; M. Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton, P.Z.
- No. 230. *Port Credit, Port Credit.*
Ex. Comps. Gordon B. Jackson, Z.; Wm. E. Millar, H.; W. H. McNairn; R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Price, P.Z.'s.
- No. 231. *The St. Clair, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. A. A. Gray, Z.; H. L. Martyn, H.; Kenzie Thomson, J.; Harry Eversfield, J. W. Woodland; V. Ex. Comp. E. D. Grant, P.Z.'s.
- No. 232. *King Cyrus, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. A. J. Murray, Z.; A. Sinclair, H.; E. M. Grose, J.; Fred. Power, P.Z.
- No. 233. *Oakwood, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. Thos. Windsor, Z.; J. M. Andrews, J.; S. H. McElwain, P.Z.
- No. 234. *Halton, Georgetown.*
Ex. Comps. B. G. Arnold, Z.; Geo. C. Brown, H.; G. H. Jackson, J.; H. Corke, H. G. Meir, J. T. Cameron, J. B. Wallace, P.Z.'s.
- No. 235. *Aurora, Aurora.*
Ex. Comps. W. C. Waite, Z.; W. R. McQuade, F. R. Underhill, P.Z.'s.

- No. 238. *The St. Andrew, London.*
Ex. Comps. W. L. Stewart, Z.; R. L. Armstrong, J.;
G. W. Blay, P.Z.
- No. 239. *Blenheim, Blenheim.*
Ex. Comp. A. J. McTavish, Z.; R. Ex. Comp. J. L.
Rutherford, P.Z.
- No. 240. *Smithville, Smithville.*
Ex. Comps. F. F. Hays, H.; J. H. Patterson, P.Z.
- No. 241. *University, Toronto.*
Ex. Comps. F. T. Nichol, H.; H. Irwin (Proxy); R.
Ex. Comp. C. H. C. Wright, P.Z.'s.
- No. 242. *St. Paul's, Lambeth.*
Ex. Comp. G. H. Hardy, Z.
- No. 243. *McKay, Stoney Creek.*
R. Ex. Comp. Sidney S. Forbes (Proxy), P.Z.
- No. 244. *Cochrane, Cochrane.*
Ex. Comp. R. E. Reid, Z.
- No. 245. *Preston, Preston.*
Ex. Comps. J. A. King, Z.; F. E. Yealland, H.; W.
D. Thompson, J.
- No. 246. *Humber, Weston.*
Ex. Comp. R. B. Dargavel, Z.

Ninety-four Chapters were represented by regular Officers; fourteen were represented by Proxy; twenty-seven were represented by Past Z.'s, making the total Chapters represented 135; there were 465 delegates registered, having a total of 730 votes.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. W. HAENTSCHEL, Chairman,
A. G. HORWOOD,
H. A. MILLER,
B. CAIRNS,
W. W. ASH,
A. BROOKSTONE,
W. J. ARMSTRONG,
DAVID S. L. MACDOUGALL,
Committee.

On motion of R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. C. W. Haentschel, the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

At the opening of Grand Chapter the Past Grand Z.'s who were in attendance were presented and wore beautiful new chain collars with their Jewels of Office attached.

The M. Ex. Grand Z. announced that all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, and properly vouched for, would be admitted as visitors during the sessions of Grand Chapter.

The Grand Scribe E. commenced reading the minutes of the Proceedings of the Sixty-seventh Annual Convocation, held in the City of Windsor, Wednesday and Thursday, February 25th and 26th, 1925, when it was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That as the Proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held Wednesday and Thursday, February 25th and 26th, 1925, have been printed and copies thereof sent to all the Chapters in this Jurisdiction, the recorded minutes be considered as read, and the same is now confirmed.

CIVIC WELCOME

V. Ex. Comp. Alderman Benjamin J. Miller, representing His Worship, Mayor Foster, Chief Magistrate of the City of Toronto, was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. C. H. C. Wright. The M. Ex. the Grand Z., in welcoming the Mayor's representative, assured him that he spoke the feelings of the Grand Chapter of Canada in expressing his pleasure in having a representative of the Civic Body present, who was not only one of the City Alderman but also a Past Grand Chapter Officer, and he invited him to continue to the dais and deliver any message he might have to deliver.

After expressing the regrets of His Worship, the Mayor, at his inability to be present in person to welcome the delegates to the City, V. Ex. Comp.

B. J. Miller read a cordial message of greeting which he had been asked by the Mayor to present. His Worship pointed out that one of the most pleasant duties connected with his office was to welcome such organizations as the Grand Chapter. He assured them he did so with much pleasure, and he had no doubt he did with the hearty approval of the City of Toronto, a large proportion of whom belonged to the ancient and honourable society of Freemasons. With Masonic Halls in all parts of the City, and the astounding increase in the number of lodges during the past few years Toronto may truly be said to be a "Masonic City." Although he looked on the Masonic Body from the outside, he could not speak of it in terms other than those of high respect; with its distinguishing characteristics of brotherhood, goodwill and fellowship, all combined to make it unique. After giving some interesting statistics *re* Customs imports for home consumption, Postal Revenue, value of buildings erected in Toronto during 1925, as compared with those of Montreal, His Worship closed his message with the hope that the Convocation in Toronto would be one of pleasure for everyone connected with it, and he extended the freedom of the City to all.

The M. Ex. the Grand Z. thanked V. Ex. Comp. Miller on behalf of Grand Chapter for the hearty words of welcome, and to convey his appreciation to His Worship, the Mayor.

RECEPTIONS

SCOTTISH RITE BODY

Represented by M. Ill. Bro. Alfred F. Webster, Sovereign Grand Commander, who was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. J. Austin Evans, who in the course of his remarks mentioned, that the Sovereign Grand Commanders were elected for a term of three years, and if they behaved themselves and did not die, were usually given a second term, as a consequence M. Ill. Bro. Webster was the ninth Sovereign Grand Com-

mander from the year 1874. He also said that, in addition to his present exalted rank, he was a Past District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada and a Past Grand Principal Sojourner of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

M. Ill. Bro. Webster was received by M. Ex. Comp. Geo. Moore, who said it gave him great pleasure to welcome to the Convocation of Grand Chapter the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33rd Deg. of A. & A. S.R. of the Dominion of Canada. After commenting on the labourious work which the M. Ill. Brother had done in Masonry, during his Masonic career, he was entitled, said Comp. Moore, to be called "Alfred the Great."

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Represented by R. Em. Sir Kts. W. H. A. Eckhardt, Grand Chancellor, and Thos. Essery, Chairman of the Finance Committee, were introduced by R. Ex. Comp. W. Y. Mills. He stated that it was a delightful privilege for him to present to the members of Grand Chapter these two R. Em. Sir Knights, who also represented the Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, in the person of M. Em. Sir Kt. Col. Geo. B. McLeod, who was unable to be present. He also pointed out that to his mind it showed a mark of exceeding good will that the Grand Chapter should be favoured by a visit of official representatives from the Knights Templar Body of Canada, thus exhibiting the good feeling that exists between the Grand Chapter and the Sovereign Great Priory, the latter being one of the high orders of Freemasonry, which requires the Royal Arch as a preliminary for its membership.

These two distinguished R. Em. Sir Knights were received by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, Grand J., who expressed regret that they were not accompanied by the Grand Master, M. Em. Sir Kt. Col. Geo. B. McLeod. He also mentioned that when

the Supreme Great Priory required a Grand Chancellor, it was necessary to come to the Province of Ontario for that particular officer, for Sir Kt. Eckhardt was born in Ontario. He trusted that their sojourn would be most pleasant while in Toronto.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

Represented by M.W. Bro. John A. Rowland, who was accompanied by R.W. Bro. W. M. Logan, Grand Secretary, and introduced by R. Ex. Comp. A. Cowan, who stated that the Grand Master, in his opinion, came closer to those present, and had endeared himself more than any other of the distinguished visitors, not only by reason of his charming personality, but his frequent and intimate association with the Brethren in the work of our various constituent Lodges. In fact he had heard him described as the most sincerely human Grand Master who had ever adorned the East.

M.W. Bro. Rowland was received by M. Ex. Comp. E. T. Malone, who stated that it was recognized that the Body as represented by the Grand Master, and over which he had so ably presided, was the foundation of Masonry, and that the various allied Bodies were dependent upon the same. After assuring M.W. Bro. Rowland that it was a pleasure to see and to know he was a member of the Royal Craft, he had his best wishes for his continued success in such an important Body as the Grand Chapter of Canada.

GRAND CHAPTER OF MICHIGAN

Represented by M. Ex. Comp. Harry L. Izor, G.H.P., who was accompanied by R. Ex. Comps. Stanley A. Farum, Grand King; S. Elgin Mifflin, Grand Scribe; M. Ex. Comp. Charles A. Conover, Grand Secretary, and R. Ex. Comp. George W. Leedle, Grand Lecturer. They were introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., who explained that they represented both quantity and

quality: the former, because they represent some 47,000 Royal Arch Masons, and the latter, because they came in few but distinguished numbers. He did not know whether they were here for enlightenment, or something else, nevertheless he did know they were here for the purpose of fraternizing with those whom they considered to be their friends and Companions in Royal Arch Masonry.

These Companions were received by M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer, who stated that it had devolved upon him as one of the members of the Grand Body to welcome into their midst some of his own Companions, as he had the honour to be a member of the Grand Chapter of Michigan. He had no doubt but these five noble Companions had come across from the State of Michigan to learn, and it gave him great pleasure to welcome them and ask that they approach the Grand East.

GRAND CHAPTER OF NEW YORK

Represented by M. Ex. Comp. Washington A. Russell, G.H.P., who was accompanied by the following distinguished Companions: R. Ex. Comps. Charles Hammel, Deputy G.H.P.; Samuel S. Forster, Grand King; Chauncey B. Hammond, Grand Captain of the Host; Wm. Condit, Grand Scribe; John W. Baird, Grand Representative New South Wales, and Ed. Rolle, Grand Representative Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Companions were introduced by M. Ex. Comp. F. W. Harcourt, who mentioned that they were Companions of intelligence, industry and resources, and made money out of everything they could reach. The reason for this was that their forefathers came from that tight little Isle that ruled the world for many centuries, and their hearts were made of oak; also that they were our next door neighbours.

These visitors were received by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, Grand H., who stated that it gave him

great pleasure to welcome them, and also mentioned what a cordial and fraternal welcome had been extended to himself and the First Grand Principal, M. Ex. Comp. W. H. Davis, when they had attended the 129th Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York, which was held recently in the City of Albany, N.Y., and over which M. Ex. Comp. Russell presided. Everything was done to make their stay most enjoyable. Masonry was founded on the principle of brotherly love, and therefore knows no dividing international lines. As we were recognized by you, so we now recognize your presence, and it is in that spirit we welcome you here to-day. We interpret your visit as an evidence of your fraternal regard for us, and we welcome you as Brothers and Companions, and trust that your stay with us will be pleasant.

GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA

Represented by R. Ex. Comp. Walton K. Swetland, Grand King, owing to the unavoidable absence of the Grand High Priest, caused by the illness of his son, was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., who, in the course of his remarks, stated that they had heard from several other Jurisdictions whose representatives had been introduced in most appropriate terms, but he desired to inform the Companions assembled that in R. Ex. Comp. Swetland they had not only age, but also beauty. The former was especially due to the fact that the distinguished Companion represented a Grand Chapter Body 131 years old, a Body that was very closely associated in its work with the United Supreme Grand Chapter of England, as well as with the work of this Jurisdiction.

R. Ex. Comp. Swetland was received by M. Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton, who regretted the unavoidable absence of the Grand High Priest. He remarked he understood the R. Ex. Companion did not come from

Philadelphia, but from that North Part where every man was a Mason, and every woman too, if she could. If you find our climate cold, you will find our hearts warm, and we trust you will enjoy your sojourn with us while attending this Annual Convocation.

GRAND CHAPTER OF QUEBEC

Represented by M. Ex. Comp. W. M. Couper, Grand Z., who was accompanied by M. Ex. Comp. W. W. Williamson, Grand Secretary. These two distinguished Companions were introduced by R. Ex. Comp. E. B. Brown, who remarked that it gave him great pleasure to present two such prominent Companions from the Grand Chapter of Quebec, a sister Jurisdiction and a daughter of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and personally he was delighted to have them present.

These two Companions were received by R. Ex. Comp. O. Ellwood, who stated it was indeed a great pleasure for him to welcome to the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada such highly esteemed Companions. He pointed out how fifty years ago the Grand Chapter of Quebec was formed, being the oldest daughter of the Grand Chapter of Canada, then came the Grand Chapter of Alberta, that of Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Manitoba, all daughters of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and all of which we were extremely proud. Last year he had the privilege of welcoming M. Ex. Comp. W. W. Williamson at the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter and was glad to note that he was so pleased with his reception then that he had come again. He trusted that their visit would be pleasant, and the friendships formed would continue and be a happy remembrance to them for many years to come.

At this juncture, the M. Ex. the Grand Z. requested V. Ex. Comp. L. F. Stephens, Grand Director of Ceremonies, to lead the Companions in

giving Grand Honours to the visiting representatives of the various Grand Bodies.

Ex. Comp. George Slack, Past Z. of The Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4, then read an address of welcome to the Grand Z. from the nineteen Royal Arch Chapters located in the City of Toronto.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE TORONTO CHAPTERS

To the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:—

We, the Companions of the two Toronto Districts, beg leave to humbly lay before you a sincere and fraternal welcome to Toronto on this the Sixty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada. It is indeed fitting that you should assemble in our city, for does not the name Toronto signify "The Place of Meeting?"

To you, Most Excellent Sir, and your officers, in whom is vested the government of Capitular Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction, we desire to pay a tribute of merited respect, and likewise to give an expression of our loyalty for your untiring efforts in promoting the welfare of Royal Arch Masonry.

Never before has this Grand Body met under more favourable auspices. The chaos which followed in the wake of that great cataclysm, the Great World War, has left an indelible imprint upon the world. Institutions which have been considered as unshakable have tottered and fallen, idols have been roughly broken and ideals rudely torn from the minds of man, so that man has known not which way to turn, and the civilized world has been like a ship at sea without a rudder.

It is only at this date, nearly eight years after the signing of peace, that the world is beginning to realize some of that readjustment so necessary to

harmony and stability. And yet, might we not with justice say that even the Great War was more of an effect than cause? Is it not possible that it, too, was but the expression of a great change which had been working silently and unnoticed until having acquired a certain momentum, it suddenly burst loose upon the world? A change brought about through the advance of civilization, by the progress of thought in every sphere of life, a change from the individual service of yesterday to the community service of to-day, a change with which mankind had found it an utter impossibility to keep pace. And now, passing through this change, we find order and system gradually replacing confusion and doubt.

Through this trying period, when other institutions have failed, new schemes found inadequate, our Rulers have safely guided Capitular Masonry, and we are even now nearing the haven of equilibrium. For many years past, Freemasonry has been in a stage of transition, and it is apparent to every intelligent observer that the Masonry of to-day is upon a distinctly higher level than that of ten years ago.

Questions of exceedingly great importance will be presented to this Grand Chapter for consideration, and we doubt not that their solution will prove to be for the advancement and welfare of our beloved Fraternity. Therefore, we welcome you, not only for yourselves but for the work which you will do at this epoch making Convocation, which will undoubtedly prove one of the milestones on the upward road of progress of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Signed on behalf of the Toronto Chapters,—

Gordon G. Sheppard, St. Andrew and St. John Chapter, No. 4.

Andrew Crawford, King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8.

A. B. Dalby, York Chapter, No. 62.

M. R. Griffiths, St. Paul's Chapter, No. 65.
 Harry Parker, Occident Chapter, No. 77.
 C. H. G. Fletcher, Orient Chapter, No. 79.
 W. F. Bowerman, Antiquity Chapter, No. 91.
 C. W. Long, Shekinah Chapter, No. 138.
 Geo. W. Wilson, The St. Patrick Chapter,
 No. 145.

A. M. Bond, The Beaches Chapter, No. 163.
 Thos R. Hughes, Toronto Chapter, No. 185.
 A. M. Clavir, Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 212.
 Wm. Hughes, St. Alban's Chapter, No. 217.
 F. A. Doan, Ulster Chapter, No. 219.
 E. S. Calder, Beaver Chapter, No. 225.
 A. Art Gray, St. Clair Chapter, No. 231.
 A. J. Murray, King Cyrus Chapter, No. 232.
 Thomas Windsor, Oakwood Chapter, No. 233.
 C. R. Redfern, University Chapter, No. 241.

At the conclusion of this address, the Grand Z. expressed his thanks to Ex. Comp. Slack, and asked him to convey to the Ruling Principals of the various Royal Arch Chapters in Toronto his sincere thanks and appreciation for their address of welcome. He had in the past enjoyed the pleasure of watching their work and enjoying their hospitality.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

The M. Ex. the Grand Z. directed the Grand Scribe E. to call the roll of Representatives of sister Grand Chapters when they assembled before the Altar. The following Grand Representatives answered to their names:—

R. Ex. Comp.	Edwin Smith	Alabama
R. “	C. W. Haentschel	Arizona
R. “	E. M. Carleton	British Columbia
R. “	Harvey J. Milne	Connecticut
M. “	W. N. Ponton	Georgia
R. “	Joseph J. Shelley	Illinois
R. “	Edward Lankin	Iowa
R. “	John Graham	Kentucky
R. “	W. Y. Mills	Louisiana
R. “	Marshall E. Sherwood	Maine

R.	"	"	Robt. Henry Reid	Manitoba
R.	"	"	R. G. W. Connolly	Maryland
R.	"	"	D. H. McIntosh	Massachusetts
R.	"	"	Henry T. Smith	Michigan
R.	"	"	Oliver Ellwood	Minnesota
R.	"	"	John J. Farley	Mississippi
R.	"	"	A. G. Horwood	Missouri
R.	"	"	W. M. Logan	Montana
M.	"	"	R. H. Spencer	Nebraska
M.	"	"	Walter H. Davis	New Hampshire
R.	"	"	K. J. Dunstan	New Jersey
M.	"	"	F. W. Harcourt	New York
R.	"	"	John A. Cowan	New Zealand
R.	"	"	Geo. L. Gardiner	North Dakota
M.	"	"	Geo. Moore	Nova Scotia
R.	"	"	Ed. Worth	Oklahoma
R.	"	"	D. A. Clark	Oregon
R.	"	"	Edward B. Brown	Quebec
R.	"	"	William Croft	Saskatchewan
R.	"	"	Walter G. Price	Tennessee
M	"	"	E. T. Malone	Texas
R.	"	"	J. B. Nixon	Vermont
R.	"	"	Joseph W. Hickson	Victoria
R.	"	"	Frank Hills	Washington
R.	"	"	William Panton	Western Australia
R.	"	"	Alexander Cowan	West Virginia
R.	"	"	William J. Wadsworth	Wisconsin
R.	"	"	David H. McCracken	Wyoming

The M. Ex. the Grand Z. extended words of welcome to the various Grand Representatives, which was replied to by R. Ex. Comp. Harvey J. Milne, who stated, he esteemed it a great honour to have the privilege of responding for the Representatives of the various Grand Bodies, and on their behalf tendered their heartiest, cordiality and goodwill to the Grand Chapter of Canada.

R. Ex. Comp. E. M. Carleton, Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of British Columbia, stated, he was pleased to report that the condition of the Royal Craft was satisfactory in that sister Jurisdiction, and that he was instructed by the M. Ex. the Grand Z. to present the best wishes of the Grand Chapter of British Columbia to the Grand Chapter of Canada for the success of their Annual Convocation.

The M. Ex. the Grand Z. asked R. Ex. Comp. Carleton to kindly convey to the Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of British Columbia the hearty best wishes for the success of one of the youngest daughters of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Grand Representatives at the invitation of the Grand Z. took seats on the dias, after which he presented the following report:—

ADDRESS OF GRAND Z.

To the Officers and Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

As your Grand First Principal, I am delighted to see before me so many of the Excellent Companions who, in their respective localities, are controlling the destinies of the Royal Craft and to welcome you to this, our Sixty-eighth Annual Convocation.

The Companions of Toronto have again arranged for our comfort for this Convocation, a burden these good enthusiastic Companions have always been ready to bear, when called upon so to do.

We expect to have with us many distinguished Companions from this and sister Jurisdictions, from whom you will all be delighted to hear.

The reports of the various standing Committees will be placed before you for your consideration.

The Special Committee on mileage and per diem allowance have finished their labours and will report at this Convocation.

The Special Committee on Revision of Ritual have given much careful and painstaking study and thought to this important subject, and they will present the result of their labours at the meeting to be held to-night. I trust that we will have a full Assembly to-night and that this subject will receive your special earnest consideration, as it is of great importance to this Grand Body.

There are important Notices of Motion presented, which will require the thoughtful attention of the Grand Chapter.

New Chapters.

During the year three new Chapters have been consecrated and dedicated at:—

Cochrane, to be called Cochrane, No. 244.

Preston, to be called Preston, No. 245.

Weston, to be called Humber, No. 246.

At Weston I had the assistance of a loyal band of Right Excellent and Excellent Companions from Toronto in performing this Ceremony. This Chapter, under the able leadership of R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Armstrong, has already demonstrated that it has the ability which commands success.

R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith and I journeyed to Cochrane and, assisted by R. Ex. Comp. Frank K. Ebbitt, District Superintendent, and other enthusiastic Companions from Iroquois Falls and Timmins, we performed the Ceremony of Consecration and Dedication of Cochrane Chapter.

I availed myself of the opportunity, while in the North Country, of visiting the Chapters in Iroquois Falls and Timmins and of fraternizing with the Companions in those centres. I regret that the time at my disposal did not allow me to visit other Northern Chapters.

It is difficult to adequately express to you the warmth of welcome we received and the thoughtful attention paid us in the North Country. At our entrance to the Northland, at North Bay, we received a telegram of welcome from the District Superintendent and were, at an early hour in the morning, met by a delegation of Companions, who motored us about the City, entertained us at breakfast and conducted us to the Masonic Hall, where we had a short Masonic interview. At each of the centres visited, we found earnest, enthusiastic Companions, skilled in work and imbued with high Masonic principles.

While there, I felt, and still feel, that we in Southern Ontario have not had a clear conception of the difficulties we have placed on the Right Excellent Companions who have been selected as Grand Superintendents of District No. 15. In my opinion, we are asking too much of the Right Excellent Companion, so chosen, in expecting him to cover effectively the very large territory assigned to him. That the work has been well done in the past, is a token of the self-sacrificing character of the Right Excellent Companions who have represented the Grand

First Principal in that District. I trust the Notice of Motion, regarding a division of this District, will be carefully considered.

At Preston, I was assisted by M. Ex. Comp. Geo. Moore, R. Ex. Comps. Henry T. Smith and Walter G. Price and a good representation of Companions from the surrounding Chapters, and I trust this Chapter will meet with good success.

Representatives.

Vacancies having occurred, I approved of the appointments of the following Grand Representatives of the Grand Chapter of Canada, near the Grand Chapters mentioned below, these Representatives having been recommended to me by their Grand Chapters:—

- M. Ex. Comp. James A. Richan, Maine.
- Ex. Comp. Wylie M. Pickens, North Carolina.
- Ex. Comp. William H. Baugh, Indiana.
- Ex. Comp. J. Arthur Jensen, Minnesota.

I recommended the appointment of the following distinguished Companions as Grand Representatives near our Grand Chapter for other Grand Chapters, and I have pleasure in reporting that these recommendations were approved:—

- R. Ex. Comp. D. H. McIntosh, Massachusetts.
- R. Ex. Comp. M. E. Sherwood, Maine.
- R. Ex. Comp. C. W. Haentschel, Arizona.
- R. Ex. Comp. R. W. Brennan, North Carolina.

The first two were rendered necessary by the deaths of M. Ex. Comp. J. E. Harding and R. Ex. Comp. William Birrell. The other two were reappointments.

By-Laws.

In addition to approval of minor changes in the By-Laws of a few Chapters, I approved the By-Laws of the following Chapters, with proviso, in some cases, that certain changes be made:—

Keystone, No. 35, Whitby.
 St. Francis, No. 133, Smith's Falls.
 St. Patrick, No. 145, Toronto.
 St. Andrew, No. 238, London.
 Cochrane Chapter, No. 244, Cochrane.
 Humber, No. 246, Weston.

I would recommend that a committee be appointed to prepare, for the consideration of the Grand Chapter, a model set of by-laws.

Dispensations.

During the year, I authorized dispensations to allow Chapters to confer degrees at one meeting, when distance was an important consideration, or when there were particular important reasons for the request, especially when I considered the best interests of Capitular Masonry in the locality justified my action. I refused similar dispensations where I felt the conditions did not justify me in authorizing them.

In three cases I authorized dispensations to allow Chapters to confer degrees, away from home, on Brethren in their Jurisdictions:—

Temiskaming Chapter at Elk Lake.
 Shuniah Chapter at Hornepayne.
 Madoc Chapter at Bancroft.

I issued dispensations:—

To allow Chapters to confer degrees on candidates who had suffered from physical disabilities. I consider mental and moral qualifications much more important than physical qualifications. Therefore, when the applicants were well recommended and when there was not a prospect of their becoming charges upon the Chapters, I felt physical disability should not be a bar to their Masonic advancement.

To allow two Chapters to receive applications from bank clerks, who had not been within their Jurisdiction for twelve months. These two Brethren

were highly recommended and, as their positions in the Bank rendered it uncertain when they could acquire a full twelve months' residence, I felt this action justified.

To allow Chapters to attend Divine Service in Regalia, in one case with Craft Lodge, with proviso that Regalia be worn only at service. I refused to allow regalia to be worn in procession in the only case where such request was made.

To allow a Chapter to hold a concert under the auspices of the Chapter, the proceeds being for the benefit of the Chapter.

To allow a Chapter to wear Regalia at an "At Home" attended by Masons and their families only.

To allow Lucknow Chapter to install their Third Principal, March 10th. He was prevented by illness from attending regular installation.

To allow Ulster Chapter to change place of meeting for balance of year 1925, from Freemasons' Hall, College Street, to Riverdale Masonic Hall, Gerrard and Logan Street, Toronto, and to change date of meeting from second and fourth Tuesdays to first and third Thursdays. The two District Superintendents of Toronto Districts approved of this request. It will be noted the Chapter was temporarily moving from one District to the other.

To allow Madoc Chapter to change date of installation.

Two rather unpleasant incidents occurred during the year. In each case the Chapter violated the regulations of our Constitutions *re* dispensations. In each case the officers made an explanation that a misinterpretation of the Constitution had led to the error. I accepted these explanations, but feel that it is my duty to impress upon officers of Chapters the necessity of thoroughly familiarizing themselves with the Constitution, particularly so far as it relates to the government and conduct of subordinate Chapters.

Masonic Courtesies.

I wish to convey my thanks to the Grand Chapter of Quebec for kindly waiving Jurisdiction, to allow Brethren from Temiskaming, Quebec, to receive Capitular degrees at Cobalt.

In this connection, I desire to report that I declined to request the Grand Chapter of Quebec to waive Jurisdiction to allow a Brother, whose residence is in Montreal but whose vocation brings him for considerable periods to Ontario, to present an application to an Ontario Chapter. This is not a parallel case to that at Temiskaming, as there is no Royal Arch Chapter in Quebec near Temiskaming, and there is a number of Chapters in Montreal.

One of our Companions wished to visit a Chapter in Rochester, but the Companions there, finding he had not received the P. M. degree, declined to admit him. The matter was taken up with the Grand High Priest and the Grand Secretary of New York, and we are informed that, while, by their Constitution, he could not be admitted without receiving the degree, the Chapter had the power to confer the degree upon him. By this time, I trust the situation will be cleared up to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Rulings.

I made the following rulings:—

That a Chapter might have its minutes type-written by Scribe E., with proviso that each sheet should be numbered, signed and afterwards secured in binder.

That officers of a Chapter should not alter the operation of a By-Law unless by resolution to suspend or by rescinding the By-Law.

A dispute arose as to whether or not a Companion had some time ago applied for a Demit. The Scribe E. of the time has since died and there is no record in the Minutes. I ruled that the Demit be granted. If the Companion is honest in his contention, an injustice would be done to him by not grant-

ing it and no Chapter should ever be unjust to a Companion. If the Companion is dishonest in his claim, the Chapter is well advised not to seek to continue him as a member.

Where an officer absolutely refused to attend Convocations or to resign his office, I ruled that his refusal to do his duties was tantamount to resigning his office, and that the Chapter should proceed to fill his place.

Visitations.

I had the pleasure of visiting the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. The kindness and hospitality of the Grand Chapter Officers will always remain with me a delightful memory. I had a pleasant interview with our Grand Representative, R. Ex. Comp. Samuel Shaw, a brother of our late M. Ex. Comp. Abraham Shaw.

Unfortunately, I was unable to be present at the Grand Chapter Convocations of Michigan and Quebec. R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith kindly represented me at the former and R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith at the latter.

R. Ex. Comp. Kenneth J. Dunstan and I journeyed to Albany to attend the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York and received a most hearty and hospitable welcome. R. Ex. Comp. Edward F. Rolle, our Representative near that Grand Chapter, was untiring in his efforts to see that we enjoyed every minute of our stay.

Accompanied by the Grand Scribe E. and M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer, I visited Smith's Falls on the Field Day of St. Francis Chapter. A new Masonic home having been provided there, the Companions decided on a celebration, which was thoroughly successful. The degrees were conferred on a number of candidates. The Companions of sister Chapters assisted in the work and a large number of Companions from surrounding Chapters, enjoyed the excellent ritualistic work and the bounteous hos-

pitality of the local Companions. It was a banner day for Capitular Masonry in that District.

It was my good fortune to have the opportunity of visiting a number of subordinate Chapters. To one and all of them, I tender my thanks for their loyal and kind reception.

I found it impossible for me to accept the kind invitations to attend District meetings in Brockville and Ottawa, which I much regretted, as it would have enabled me to renew old friendships and lay the foundation of new friendships in Eastern Ontario. R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith obligingly took my place at these Convocations and, I believe, gave valuable and interesting instruction and information to the assembled Companions.

Necrology.

Since our last Annual Convocation we have lost by death M. Ex. Comp. J. E. Harding, Grand First Principal in 1892 and 1893, an enthusiastic, earnest and talented Mason, whose passing away leaves a gap in Masonic leadership difficult to fill.

American Masonry has lost a prominent and eminent Mason in the passing over of our Grand Representative, near the Grand Chapter of Indiana, M. Ex. Comp. Thomas Riley Marshall, Past M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters of Indiana, and an active member of the Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Northern Jurisdiction. He was elected Governor of Indiana in 1908 and twice Vice-President of the United States, namely, in 1913 and 1917. One of his associates writes of him:—

“He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and those who came in contact with him could not fail to be impressed with his nobility of character, strength of intellect, and the depth and breadth of his learning,—an unassuming and sincere man and loyal friend, who could be depended upon in any emergency.”

Officers.

Our Grand Treasurer, M. Ex. Comp. George Moore, has kept a watchful eye on our financial affairs and has increased our investments by Two Thousand Dollars. He reports our financial condition as satisfactory.

In considering our receipts and expenditures, it strikes me that we are spending too much money on our Annual Proceedings. I would suggest to the incoming Grand Officers that the amount of matter might advantageously be curtailed.

Our Grand Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, has, in addition to his careful attention to office routine, given me great assistance; in fact, has been the staff on which I had often to lean for help in conducting the affairs of my office, an assistance always loyally and efficiently rendered.

To all my associates in office on whom I have had to call for assistance during the year, I wish to tender my appreciation for their kindness and the valuable help furnished me.

Conclusion.

In laying down the sceptre of office, I wish to convey to you, one and all, my sincere thanks for the assistance and kindly courtesies extended to me during my two years of office, years made happy by the associations I have formed.

When I accepted office, I informed you that, being a busy man, I could not promise to give up the large amount of time my predecessors had been able to give in visitations. I feel that my Companions will excuse my failing in this respect. I have done my best in the time at my disposal. I trust that my work has been of some benefit to Grand Chapter.

I have not always seen eye to eye with my Companions, but your kindly toleration of the opinions of others, a virtue which characterizes all true Masons, will, I hope, lead you to believe that I have always endeavoured, in my acts and decisions, to

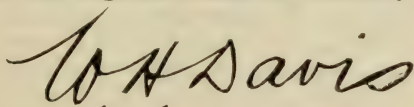
labour for what I believed to be the best interests of the Royal Craft.

In Hamilton, on the 19th of January, 1857, eight earnest Royal Arch Masons met and formed the Grand Chapter of Canada. From this small beginning, the present Grand Chapter, with its 153 Subordinate Chapters and its 25,650 Companions, and flourishing Grand Chapters in Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, each considered by us "A Daughter in her Mother's house but Mistress in her own," have grown and developed.

If such a thing were possible and the eyes of those Grand old Masons could penetrate the veil separating the Grand Chapter above and this Grand Convocation, we can easily imagine them saying, "We builded better than we knew."

Down through the years intervening since its foundation, the Grand Chapter has had a succession of earnest and sincere Craftsmen, labouring for the best interests of Royal Craft Masonry or this success would not have been attained.

To us, as their successors, has been entrusted the leadership of this Grand Body, and may we be so guided and directed that when we lay down the sceptres of active service, the Royal Craft will be found to be still making substantial progress and still giving service to the highest ideals of Masonry.



Grand Z.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the address of the M. Ex. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

The Reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were then presented.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

It is with pleasure that I submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in St. Clair District, No. 1, for the year 1925.

In making my report, may I say, there has been of late a greater interest taken in Capitular Masonry. No doubt on account of the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter having been held last year in this District during the term of my predecessor as Grand Superintendent, R. Ex. Comp. P. J. McConnell, of Ark Chapter, Windsor. Also the fact, that the officers of the Chapters are doing better work by studying their rituals more. Every Chapter is in sound financial standing and have a full line of paraphernalia for the working of each degree, and most important of all a capable staff of officers, so that the future for this particular branch of Masonry in the St. Clair District, No. 1, looks very bright to me, depending, of course, on the continuance of that zeal and interest which has so impressed me on my visitations to the various Chapters.

I have visited every Chapter once, and some Chapters several times, during my term of office, and had the pleasure of visiting one Foreign Jurisdiction. On October 24th I accompanied Ark Chapter, Windsor, to Jackson Chapter, No. 3, Jackson, Michigan, where the Windsor Companions exemplified the Royal Arch degree in a very commendable manner, reflecting great credit on their Chapter. On this occasion I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. P. J. McConnell and courteously received by the High Priest, Ex. Comp. Harry Dunning. I am very much in favor of fraternal visits of this kind with our American Companions, the results of which are far reaching and help to knit together those bonds which should exist between the two Grand Jurisdictions. I extended a cordial invitation to our Am-

erican Companions to attend our Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada the coming February in the City of Toronto, in order that we might make it a still greater gathering of Royal Arch Masons.

MACNABB CHAPTER, No. 88, DRESDEN.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on May 21st, accompanied by Ex. Comps. W. L. Shillington, J. W. Baird, and A. R. Williams, and I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Frank Laird. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. W. Bedell, a Past Principal, in a very efficient manner. It was at this Chapter that I met one of the oldest Royal Arch Masons in the District in the person of Ex. Comp. John French, their Scribe E., who, though creeping up in years, is still capable of looking after his important duties.

ERIE CHAPTER, No. 73, RIDGETOWN.—I visited this Chapter twice, the last time on October 5th, accompanied by fourteen Companions of Blenheim Chapter. This was my mother Chapter, and I was cordially welcomed by R. Ex. Comp. D. R. McDiarmid. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. S. E. Savage, and his staff of officers in a creditable manner. I found the books in first class condition. They have a nice Chapter room. After the Chapter was closed an enjoyable hour was spent in the banquet hall, where R. Ex. Comp. McDiarmid gracefully filled the position of Toast Master.

PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, No. 71, AMHERSTBURG.—On Friday evening, October, 23rd, I had the pleasure of visiting Prince of Wales Chapter. First Principal Ex. Comp. W. Moore and his officers conferred the Mark Master Mason degree in a most admirable manner. They were assisted by V. Ex. Comp. Charles Y. Dixon, V. Ex. Comp. Edward Patton, Ex. Comps. Charles Hackett, and Walter Wigle.

Prince of Wales Chapter is to be congratulated on having such a capable First Principal, and it is needless for me to say, that work passing through this Chapter is good work and of good quality. On this visit R. Ex. Comp. P. J. McConnell and other Companions of Ark Chapter, Windsor, were present and gave short addresses, which were appreciative and appropriate. In whole it was an instructive evening and one of the most pleasant experienced by me on my visitations.

SOMBRA CHAPTER, No. 153, WALLACEBURG.—On November 10th I visited this Chapter accompanied by Ex. Comp. A. J. McTavish, and Comps. G. C. Rutherford, and J. Connell, of Blenheim, the latter being a Chartered Member of Sombra Chapter. The work of the evening was the Mark Master Mason degree which was conferred by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. G. E. Norman. Through illness some of the principal officers were away, so that some of the chairs were filled by Past Principals. This Chapter has only been in this District a few years, and while I believe it is financially sound and has a great future, the attendance and interest could be improved by fraternal visits with other Chapters. I found a wonderful companionship existing among the Companions, and I look for this Chapter to show good progress during 1925.

LORNE CHAPTER, No. 164, WEST LORNE.—On November 18th I made my official visit to this Chapter, again accompanied by several Companions of Blenheim Chapter, and I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Dougall Turner. It was unfortunate that there was no degree work, due to the fact that some of the officers are not coming to the meetings and looking after their duties. No doubt this trouble has been corrected. In every other respect the Chapter is in excellent shape. The books are neatly kept, and the finances are in good shape. An hour was spent in talk and suggestions on the work, after which Comp. T. C. Warwick, of Blenheim Chapter, gave a

very interesting lecture, illustrating with slides his trip abroad to foreign countries.

WELLINGTON CHAPTER, No. 47, CHATHAM.—I had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter on April 23rd, on the occasion of their Past Principals' Night. The Royal Arch degree was exemplified under the guidance of R. Ex. Comp. D. W. McDonald, assisted by R. Ex. Comps. W. H. Benson and T. M. Ferguson, and several other Past Principals. It was naturally a great meeting and it is to be hoped that they will continue with their Past Principals' Nights which I believe is one of the best things to help the attendance and keep the past officers interested in the welfare of the Chapters.

On November 26th, I paid my official visit to Wellington Chapter accompanied by several Companions of Blenheim Chapter. I got a very warm reception, being introduced by R. Ex. Comp. D. W. McDonald and Ex. Comp. W. H. Ferguson. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. J. T. Crouch, in a very dignified way, naturally deliberate, accurate and impressive, leaving very little opportunity for criticism. The future of this Chapter looks very bright to me. Two of the most important offices are well taken care of by Comp. J. G. Martin, Scribe E., and Comp. W. H. Arundell, P.S. This Chapter should feel grateful in having such a splendid Chapter room, and to the loyalty and faithfulness of its Past Officers.

Following the work in the Chapter room the members repaired to the dining hall, where a sumptuous banquet was served, after which Ex. Comp. J. C. Stewart, acting as Toast Master, proposed the toast to Grand Chapter, to which I replied briefly, confining my remarks to the condition of Capitular Masonry, and impressing upon the members that the keystone of the Order is service, and that they should follow that principle in their daily lives. The members were then well entertained by Comp. George W. Sulman, Chatham's famous globe-trotter, who

gave one of his thrilling travel talks. Comp. Sulman took his hearers on an imaginary trip to the Dutch Indies, and in his own inimitable way, replete with personal anecdotes gave an interesting and instructive description of the countries, customs and manners of the people visited by Mrs. Sulman and himself.

ARK CHAPTER, No. 80, WINDSOR.—I had the pleasure of paying my official visit to Ark Chapter, No. 80, Windsor, Monday evening, October 26th, witnessing the Royal Arch degree, which was conferred in a highly commendable manner with Ex. Comp. James B. Henderson in the Chair. I was most pleasantly received by the Companions, and escorted to the East by R. Ex. Comp. Charles Keelin. Particular mention should be made of the Principal Sojourner's work, done by Comp. Charles Tweney. The office of Scribe E. is in very capable hands. R. Ex. Comp. P. J. McConnell has the books in excellent shape and worthy of comment. The Mystical Lecture, given by V. Ex. Comp. Jas. Stewart, was very impressive.

May I state that Ark Chapter is a well-balanced Chapter in every respect and might be properly classified as one of the real Royal Arch Chapters of St. Clair District. After the Chapter closed a very pleasant hour was spent in the banquet hall, consisting of addresses and stories.

KING CYRUS CHAPTER, No. 119, LEAMINGTON.—On December 8th, I paid my official visit to this Chapter and was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. E. C. Awrey, and most courteously received by the First Principal of the Chapter, Ex. Comp. W. S. Setterington. I had the pleasure of installing and investing the officers for 1926 with the assistance of Ex. Comp. W. L. Shillington, of Blenheim Chapter. I feel sure that these officers will continue the good work, and I wish them every success.

The books I found in excellent condition and the finances sound, and judging from the good com-

panionship which exists among the Companions the prospects of the Chapter are very bright.

BLENHEIM CHAPTER, NO. 239, BLENHEIM.—I officially visited my home Chapter on December 2nd, and on this occasion I invested and installed the officers for 1926, in which ceremony I was assisted by Ex. Comp. W. L. Shillington. This Chapter has been operating only three years, and now has a total membership of 77 with an increase of 8 during the past year, in addition to having five applications on hand. They have one of the best equipped Chapter rooms in the District, so that the prospects for the future are very bright. The First Principal, Ex. Comp. W. R. Fellows, and his staff of capable officers have done splendid work during the last year, and I hope the new officers will keep up the same interest and zeal. I might say that in making my visitations to the different Chapters, I was always fortunate in having, at least, four and sometimes fifteen Blenheim Companions accompany me, with the exception of one Chapter. This has been a great source of strength and encouragement to me, for which I sincerely thank them. At the close of the Chapter a social hour was spent in the banquet hall.

I have endeavoured to perform the duties of this high office with kindness and discretion. It has been my aim to impress upon the officers, as well as the individual members of the subordinate Chapters, to be living examples of diligence and industry to their Companions, as well as to make practical application of that which we are taught, ever remembering that the small duties of our every-day lives "well done" are those which embody the highest ideals of life and character, and tell the story of a successful life.

Now I would indeed be less than human if I did not feel a thrill of pride and joy that to me should fall the honour of this position. I take this opportunity of expressing my deep appreciation of the many courtesies extended to me during my term of office, and I trust that my service has been of

some value to the District, and that the Companions have received as much benefit from my visits as I have in visiting them.

I found prevailing among the Companions, throughout the whole District, the greatest loyalty to Grand Chapter, enthusiasm for their own individual Chapter, and a true spirit of Masonic hospitality.

J. L. RUTHERFORD,

Grand Supt. St. Clair District, No. 1.

Blenheim, Ont.

LONDON DISTRICT, No. 2.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

It is with pleasure that I submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in London District, No. 2, for the year ending 1925. The year has been a banner one for Royal Arch Masonry in the District. I personally visited every Chapter in the District, and paid close attention to the weaker Chapters. I must make particular mention of Aylmer Chapter and the St. Andrew Chapter; these Chapters have made wonderful progress during the year, and they have a bright future ahead. During my visits I have encouraged the social side of Masonry, as well as the serious, and also to encourage fraternal visits, with the result, that I believe, there is one of the best fraternal feelings within the Chapters, and throughout the District, that could possibly exist.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 3, LONDON.—The oldest Chapter in the London District was officially visited by me on April 22nd. A very large number of Companions, as well as many Grand Chapter officers, were present. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. C. E. A. Webb with his officers in a faultless manner, and they received many congratulations from the Right Excellent Companions present. This Chapter is fortunate, in the number of Past Zs., who are never failing in their attendance, and always ready to assist the Chapter in every possible way. This Chapter is to be congratulated in having such an efficient Scribe E., in the person of R. Ex. Comp. O. Ellwood, who has conducted the secretarial affairs of this Chapter for many years, and the harmony and good fellowship, which is very noticeable among the Companions, is largely due to the excellent work of this Right Excellent Companion. I had the pleasure of presenting R. Ex. Comp. Gilbert with the regalia

pertaining to his office as Grand Scribe N. This regalia was from the officers and Companions of the Chapter, which showed their appreciation for the past services of this Right Excellent Companion. A most enjoyable evening was spent by all, and I must congratulate this Chapter, and hope to visit it many times again unofficially.

ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, No. 5, LONDON.—My first official visit was to this Chapter on March 27th. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. the Third Principal and the officers of the Chapter in a very creditable manner. The Scribe E. of the Chapter is to be congratulated for the way the books of the Chapter are kept; special mention should be made of the Book of Marks, which is a work of art. During the evening V. Ex. Comp. John A. Atcheson was the recipient of a testimonial from St. George's Chapter, in the form of Grand Chapter regalia, pertaining to his office as Grand Standard Bearer for this year. The presentation was made by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, Grand Third Principal. It was a real pleasure to visit this Chapter.

WAWANOSH CHAPTER, No. 15, SARNIA.—With a number of Companions of my own Chapter I officially visited this Chapter on the evening of Good Friday, April 10th. Ex. Comp. Lickorish and his officers conferred the Royal Arch degree in a very creditable manner. This Chapter recently purchased the necessary equipment for the Royal Arch degree, and it has added considerable to the dignity of the work of this degree. The Chapter is to be congratulated and it speaks highly of its flourishing condition. The Scribe E. keeps his books in excellent shape. The Royal Craft is in a flourishing condition in Sarnia, and I cannot congratulate Wawanosh Chapter too highly for the interest taken by all the Companions of their Chapter.

BRUCE CHAPTER, No. 53, PETROLIA.—This Chapter I officially visited on Wednesday, October 21st,

accompanied by a number of my own Chapter officers. Ex. Comp. F. W. Scarsbrook with his officers conferred the Most Excellent Master Mason degree. There were not many Companions present, perhaps owing to weather conditions. This Chapter has taken on a new lease of life, and is now getting its quota of new members, which will make its showing considerably better than for many years in the past. A very enjoyable and instructive hour was spent around the banquet table.

PALESTINE CHAPTER, No. 54, ST. THOMAS.—My visit to this Chapter was one I looked forward to with extreme pleasure, as I had on previous occasions conferred degrees in Palestine Chapter. The Royal Arch degree was conferred in a very creditable manner. Nine candidates were exalted to this Supreme degree, the largest number I have ever seen in any Chapter in the District. This Chapter is making very fine progress, its equipment and furniture is beyond reproach. The Scribe E. has everything in fine shape, and his good work helps to keep the Chapter up to a high standard. The Past Zs. are to be congratulated for the manner in which they attend their Chapter Convocations, and assist the officers in their work. A very pleasant hour was enjoyed in the banquet room, where R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, Grand Third Principal, gave a very interesting and instructive address on the Royal Craft.

BEAVER CHAPTER, No. 74, STRATHROY.—On September 28th, I officially visited my own Chapter. At my request no degrees were conferred, as I had seen Ex. Comp. E. T. Lewis and his officers confer all degrees, and they were always conferred in the most credible manner. Several addresses were given during the evening which were instructive. These social hours are interesting to a Chapter, and I endeavoured to encourage them throughout the District. This Chapter is in a prosperous condition.

MINNEWAWA CHAPTER, No. 78, PARKHILL.—Accompanied by a number of Companions from my own Chapter, I visited this Chapter on November 4th. A large number of Companions were present. Owing to the candidate not being able to be present, no degrees were conferred. This Chapter is in a flourishing condition, and I know the officers do their work in a very excellent manner. We all enjoyed the social part of the evening, and it was one of the best spent in the District. The Scribe E. has everything in splendid shape.

AYLMER CHAPTER, No. 81, AYLME.—On the evening of June 5th, I made my visit to this Chapter. I was more than pleased to find so many Companions of the Chapter present. The First Principal, Ex. Comp. H. B. Grant, and his officers have certainly made a wonderful change in Aylmer Chapter. I was sorry that the candidate for the Most Excellent Master Mason degree was unable to be present, and no degree was conferred, but from the manner in which the officers opened the Chapter and conducted the business, I am sure they would have conferred the degree with credit to the Chapter. The books of this Chapter are in better shape than in past years, and Comp. Stevenson, Scribe E. of the Chapter, is to be congratulated. The social hour was a delightful one.

LONDON CHAPTER, No. 150, LONDON.—I looked forward to my visit to this Chapter with a great deal of pleasure, and my expectation was certainly realized on the night of June 26th, when I officially visited the Chapter. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. Head and his officers in the most creditable manner. It was the most perfect I have seen this degree conferred. When you consider that R. Ex. Comp. J. H. C. Woodward is the Scribe E. of this Chapter, it is not to be wondered at, that the work was so perfectly done, as all who know him, know that he wants things done in a proper way. His books are kept in a faultless manner,

and the Chapter is in a very prosperous condition. The social hour was one of the finest, and many instructive addresses were delivered by the Companions.

VIMY CHAPTER, No. 214, INWOOD.—The companionship and cordiality extended to me on my official visit to this Chapter, on May 4th, made it one of the most pleasant visits in the District. The officers conferred the Most Excellent Master Mason degree in a most pleasing manner. The records of the Chapter are all in excellent shape, due largely to the efficient services of Ex. Comp. J. Vance, the Scribe E. This is one of the Chapters in the District that exchanges visits with their neighbouring Chapters, and the fraternal spirit displayed by this Chapter is quite evident, and is a result of their fraternal visits. Royal Arch Masonry in Inwood is in a splendid condition, and I congratulate Vimy Chapter.

THE ST. ANDREW CHAPTER, No. 238, LONDON.—This is one of the Chapters in the District in which I took a good deal of interest. At the beginning of my term of office I considered this Chapter needed a good deal of help. I was also very much interested in this Chapter, as my District Secretary was the Ex. Z. During my term of office, Ex. Comp. Lewis, Ex. Z. of Beaver Chapter, Strathroy, accompanied the Ex. Z. of this Chapter and myself practically to every Convocation during the year. On one occasion the three of us opened The St. Andrew Chapter and conducted the affairs of the Chapter for the evening. During the latter part of the year the officers displayed a great deal more interest in their Chapter. Special mention should be made of Ex. Comp. John Wild, Third Principal, who started to bring in applications, and on the night of my official visit, November 11th, there were six applications waiting to pass the ballot. This Chapter has made the greatest progress of any Chapter in the District. The books, under the care of the Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. A. S. H. Cree, are in splendid shape, and a

great deal of the success of this Chapter is due to this Right Excellent Companion. The officers conferred the Mark Master Mason degree in a creditable manner.

ST. PAUL'S CHAPTER, No. 242, LAMBETH.—I officially visited this Chapter on May 5th, accompanied by a number of Companions from my own Chapter. I was delighted to see so many Grand Chapter officers present from London. This is one of the baby Chapters in the District, and it gave me a great deal of pleasure to see the interest the Companions of the surrounding Chapters are showing towards St. Paul's. Ex. Comp. Cricklow and his officers conferred the Mark Master Mason degree in a faultless manner. During 1924, 19 candidates were initiated into this Chapter, but during 1925 there was a marked decrease in applications. The prospects for the coming year are much brighter. The books of the Chapter are in splendid shape, which speaks well for their Scribe E. Congratulations are due to the baby Chapter.

NILESTOWN CHAPTER (U.D.), NILESTOWN.—On September 17th, I visited this Chapter when Ex. Comp. Livermore and officers conferred the Royal Arch degree in the usual good manner observed throughout the District. Under his guidance the Chapter is well on the road to success. After the work of the evening a pleasant hour was spent in the banquet room, where all listened with a good deal of interest to an excellent address on Capitular Masonry, given by R. Ex. Comp. John Barnard. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, Grand Third Principal, also spoke in his usual instructive way, leaving a message of encouragement to Nilestown Chapter. The present excellent condition of this Chapter warrants my recommendation that it receives its Charter at the next Convocation of Grand Chapter. The interest the Right Excellent Companions of London have shown towards this Chapter has gone a long way to encourage the officers and bring it to its

present state of progress. R. Ex. Comps. Edwin Smith, Chas. Gilbert, John Barnard and H. C. Ives have assisted greatly.

Concluding, I wish to express my appreciation to the Companions of the District for my election as Grand Superintendent; gratitude for the courteous treatment received, and the spirit of goodfellowship that has always been evidenced upon my visits throughout the District, and the personal kindness extended during the many happy hours I have been privileged to spend with the Companions. I especially wish to mention the very hearty co-operation I have received, not only from the officers, but also from many of the Past Grand Superintendents of this District, and the very efficient and helpful service given by Ex. Comp. W. A. Campbell, my District Secretary, who accompanied me on nearly every official visit, and helped to make my duties both pleasant and easy to perform. Also many thanks to Ex. Comp. E. T. Lewis, who has also been most generous in lending assistance. I regret that limit of space only permit these general references.

In closing may I say, I did not deem it the duty of the Grand Superintendent to criticize harshly when viewing the work, even if occasion had arisen, but to direct the energies of the officers to promote the harmony and welfare of their Chapters, to aim to get uniformity in their work and try to impress on the Companions no matter what their ranks were, their presence at Chapter Convocations was very essential, not only for the welfare and upkeep of their Chapter, but for their own instruction as well.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. R. MCNEILL,
Grand Supt. London District, No. 2.
Strathroy, Ont.

WILSON DISTRICT, No. 3.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Wilson District, No. 3.

Officially, I visited each Chapter once, and privately, in some instances, several times, and found the work being performed in a uniform and dignified manner, and the records of the Chapters well kept.

The advisability of holding a Chapter of Instruction was considered, but I decided that industrial conditions were such, that to expect Companions to attend an afternoon Convocation, would be placing a hardship upon them, from a financial standpoint, and I therefore advocated the interchange of fraternal visits, which, I believe, is quite as effective.

The following is a summary of my official visits:

HARRIS CHAPTER, No. 41, INGERSOLL.—I visited this Chapter on Friday, September 11th. Owing to the extreme warmth, no work was exemplified. The Chapter was properly opened, business transacted in a manner worthy of imitation, and the Chapter was closed in due form.

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, No. 20, BRANTFORD.—On Friday, October 2nd, I had the pleasure of visiting my own Chapter, where I was accorded a royal welcome. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred by St. John's Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton, the Companions of which were visiting on this occasion. However, as a regular attendant, I am able to report that the Companions are justly proud of their Chapter, that the work is as nearly perfect as can be expected, and that the prospects in general are bright.

BRANT CHAPTER, No. 115, PARIS.—I visited this Chapter on Monday, October 10th, when the Royal

Arch degree was conferred, and I am pleased to say, that I have never seen the degree done better, than on this occasion. Brant Chapter is to be congratulated upon the efficiency of its officers.

OXFORD CHAPTER, No. 18, WOODSTOCK, was visited by me on Friday, October 16th. The Most Excellent Master Mason degree was conferred in a very able manner, but I was greatly disappointed to find an extremely poor attendance of the Companions, only about 9 being present. This is significant in view of the fact that the average attendance is reported as 22, exclusive of visitors. However, I trust that my successor in office will find an improvement.

EZRA CHAPTER, No. 23, SIMCOE.—On Thursday, November 5th, I visited this Chapter, when the Mark Master Mason degree was conferred in a very satisfactory manner, and there was a good attendance of the Companions. It is to be regretted that industrial conditions have greatly retarded the growth of this Chapter, although all are confident that there will be an improvement in the near future.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation of the honour conferred upon me, to thank those who accompanied me on my visits, and who did much to make my term of office a year of happy memories.

S. W. SEAGO,
Grand Supt. Wilson District, No. 3.

Brantford, Ont.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, No. 4.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Wellington District, No. 4, for the year 1925.

The Chapters in this District, on the whole, are in a flourishing condition, officers competent, Record and Mark books well kept, and finances in good condition.

In consideration of the fact that Durham Chapter is at the extreme end of this rather large District, I did not think it advisable to hold a Chapter of Instruction this year, in place of this Durham Chapter kindly extended the invitation list of their annual picnic to include the members and lady friends of the other Chapters in the District, so that while we possibly missed the profit of the usual Chapter of Instruction, we had the pleasure of a very successful social function.

WATERLOO CHAPTER, No. 32, GALT.—On Monday, May 11th, I paid my official visit to this Chapter, and was cordially welcomed by Ex. Comp. Comba and his splendid staff of officers. The books of Ex. Comp. Ritchie, Scribe E., are a credit to himself and the Chapter. The Holy Royal Arch degree was conferred in a highly creditable manner, and the whole evening's proceedings were conducted with dignity and impressiveness. The incoming officers may safely be trusted to uphold the record of this fine old Chapter.

KITCHENER CHAPTER, No. 117, KITCHENER.—As this is the home Chapter of my immediate predecessor, R. Ex. Comp. Downing, it is unnecessary to say that everything is in good order. I visited this Chapter on Friday, June 5th, and was fittingly received by Ex. Comp. Snow, and witnessed a splendid rendition of the Holy Royal Arch degree.

PRESTON CHAPTER, No. 245, PRESTON.—I visited this Chapter on Monday, June 29th, was received with honours, and witnessed a careful exemplification of the Mark Master Mason degree. This Chapter has experienced more or less difficulty, owing to the fact that the higher officers had unfortunately been transferred, which made it hard to fill the offices, but now that this Chapter has been Consecrated and Dedicated and new officers installed, we hope for a bright future for the Chapter. I would like to mention particularly the untiring efforts of Comp. H. L. Clare, the Scribe E., who has worked hard for this Chapter.

ENTERPRISE CHAPTER, No. 67, PALMERSTON.—A large and enthusiastic assembly greeted me on the occasion of my visit to this Chapter on Monday, October 5th, this being the 50th anniversary of the institution of the Chapter. Ex. Comp. Hall had taken pains to see that it was properly commemorated, and the results were pleasant. The officers conferred the Holy Royal Arch degree in a faultless manner, and the work of this Chapter in every way is to be commended. Ex. Comp. Corbitt has his books in perfect order, and the new officers are of a fine type.

GUELPH CHAPTER, No. 40, GUELPH.—This Chapter preserves its traditional excellence of character. When I visited there on Friday, October 9th, the officers conferred the Holy Royal Arch degree as nearly perfect as it is humanly possible. This fine large Chapter is a credit to the District, and the handiwork of R. Ex. Comp. Marr is much in evidence, both in the Chapter room and banquet hall. The books are in excellent condition and finances highly satisfactory.

PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, No. 218, SHELBURNE.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on Friday, October 16th, and was most cordially received by Ex. Comp. Hartley. Knowing the Chapter is handicapped by not having a resident Past Z., I was agreeably surprised by the high standard of the

work the officers are doing. The Royal Arch degree, as conferred by this Chapter, is both impressive and inspiring. The work of the Z., and the P.S. being particularly worthy of mention. The books are in good order and the officers for 1926 all that could be desired.

IONIC CHAPTER, No. 83, ORANGEVILLE.—Another of the old Chapters with traditions of which the members are justly proud, and they have a high standard of work that they zealously maintain. On the occasion of my visit—Tuesday, October 20th—the Mark Master Mason degree was conferred with accuracy and precision. Ex. Comp. Adamson is to be congratulated on having a number of Past District Superintendents who still take an active interest in the work of the Chapter. This Chapter is in a flourishing condition, numerically and financially, the books are well kept, and the officers are capable.

HALTON CHAPTER, No. 234, GEORGETOWN.—This is one of the most enthusiastic and active Chapters of the District. Ex. Comp. Cameron and his officers tendered me a royal welcome when I visited there on Friday, November 20th. Comp. Arnold has his books in splendid order, and the conferring of the Royal Arch degree by the officers was deserving of the highest praise. This is one of the young Chapters of the District, but it is forging ahead rapidly and promises to take its place among the best.

DURHAM CHAPTER, No. 221, DURHAM.—This is my home Chapter and it does not become me to praise it unduly, but I may say that it is making steady and healthy progress, and Ex. Comp. Hunter and his officers may safely be trusted to uphold the standards of Capitular Masonry in this section of the District.

PRESTON CHAPTER, No. 245, PRESTON.—This Chapter was Consecrated and Dedicated in the Masonic Temple, Zeiman Block, on Monday, November 23rd, by M. Ex. Comp. Walter H. Davis, Grand Z., who was assisted by M. Ex. Comp. George Moore,

P.G.Z.,; R. Ex. Comps. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E.; John Marr, Wm. Downing, J. H. Cowan, Past Grand Supts.; Walter G. Price, P.G. P. Soj., and others. The officers installed and invested were: Ex. Comps. J. A. King, Z.; Fred Yealland, H.; W. D. Thompson, J.; Comps. H. L. Clare, S.E.; B. W. Zeimann, S.N.; H. W. Steel, P.S.; M. Smith, S.S.; G. C. McPhail, J.S.; and Comps. O. J. Little, W. G. Reads, and J. A. Gillies as the Veilsmen. One of the features of the evening was the presence of R. Ex. Comp. W. D. Hepburn, of Doon, 91 years of age, and a Chapter Mason for 57 years. After the ceremony the Companions and visitors were entertained to a banquet at the Kriss House. Visitors were present in large numbers from Galt, Guelph, Kitchener, and Hamilton.

During the year I paid a number of unofficial visits to the Chapters in the District and have not found any evidence of discord or lack of harmony, but on the contrary the utmost cordiality and good-fellowship seem to prevail both in and between the various Chapters.

I desire to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation for the bountiful hospitality extended to myself and the Companions who accompanied me by the Chapters of the District, and also to thank the Companions of Durham Chapter, who so often made what might have been a tedious journey a pleasant outing, and particularly the District Secretary, Ex. Comp. McClocklin who accompanied me on all my visits, and whose dramatic and humorous readings were always in demand during the "Social" hour; also to thank the Grand Scribe E. and the Scribes of the various Chapters for their unfailing and prompt courtesy.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

S. D. CROFT,

Grand Supt. Wellington District, No. 4.

Durham, Ont.

HAMILTON DISTRICT, No 5.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit for consideration my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Hamilton District, No. 5, for the year ending February 25th, 1926.

Permit me to express my deep appreciation for the distinguished honour conferred by the Companions of the District, in electing me to the high office of Grand Superintendent, and to the Officers and Companions of the nine Chapters for their warm fraternal greetings. In every Chapter in the District I was most cordially received, and there was every indication that the Companions placed a high value on their loyalty and respect to the Most Excellent the Grand Z. and to our honoured Institution.

To me my year as Grand Superintendent has been the most pleasant and profitable in all my Masonic life. To me it has passed altogether too quickly, and when I look back, I find many things I had hoped to accomplish still undone, and yet I deeply appreciate the most splendid support that was given to the various suggestions I made for the advancement of Masonry, and many of the Companions were untiring in their efforts to assist me. During the year I have paid one official visit to each of the Chapters, and twenty-one unofficial visits.

I have held five Royal Arch Masons' Re-Unions, at which each Companion was instructed to bring with him a Master Mason friend. I had a complete organization that put on the entire programme at each Re-Union which was conducted as an educational campaign for both the Brethren of the Symbolic Lodges and the Companions. The first Re-Union was held in McKay Chapter, No. 243, on March 25th, Stoney Creek, where Comp. Lyman Lee

and R. Ex. Comp. W. M. Logan delivered two inspiring addresses.

On April 29th a joint Re-Union was held in the Masonic Hall, Hamilton, under the auspices of The Hiram, No. 2; St. John's, No. 6, and Keystone, No. 224. This was a large gathering. The Most Excellent the Grand Z. was present, together with many distinguished Craftsmen from Toronto, Brantford, and other places. In the Chapter room, three outstanding Masonic addresses were delivered by R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., whose subject was "Close Association of Symbolic and Capitular Masonry"; R. Ex. Comp. C. H. C. Wright, Grand Superintendent of Toronto District No. 8, on the subject "Masonry as a Progressive Science," and R. Ex. Comp. J. Austin Evans, Grand Superintendent of Toronto District No. 8a, whose subject was "The Origin of the Royal Arch Degree and its Relation to Craft Masonry." In the banquet room the Most Excellent the Grand Z. replied to the toast of the Grand Chapter in his usual thoughtful and pleasing manner. The names of R. Ex. Comp. Strachan D. Croft of Wellington District, No. 4, and R. Ex. Comp. Samuel Seago of Wilson District, No. 3, were also coupled with the toast, and whose addresses were much enjoyed by those present.

On May 11th, a Re-Union was held in the Odd-fellows Temple at Milton for the St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, when M. Ex. Comp. George Moore and Comp. Lyman Lee delivered two eloquent addresses, that were enjoyed by a splendid audience of Brethren and Companions.

A Re-Union was held in the Ancaster Masonic Hall for the Ancaster Chapter, No. 155, on May 18th, when Comps. Lyman Lee and W. G. O. Thompson of McKay Chapter were the two speakers, and the large audience spent a profitable evening.

On May 19th, another Re-Union was held in the New Masonic Hall at Oakville, for the White Oak Chapter. This meeting was indeed an inspiring one,

the beautiful new Temple seemed to surround those present with a spirit inspired by the thoughtfulness of those worthy Masons that carried on the building of this splendid edifice to a successful conclusion. R. Ex. Comp. Walter G. Price, of Port Credit, and R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith delivered two wonderful addresses. This meeting will undoubtedly be long remembered by the Companions of White Oak Chapter.

You will see from the very brief report of these Re-Unions, that the Companions of this District have had the opportunity of listening to fourteen addresses, given by outstanding Companions of the Royal Craft, and words fail to express my appreciation to those Companions who gave so unselfishly of their time and talents for the advancement of this great Institution; and I would be ungrateful, indeed, if I were not to mention the musical part of the programme that helped so materially in making the Re-Unions so successful. This was in charge of my faithful Secretary, Ex. Comp. W. A. Stephenson, who arranged an organization composed of the Corinthian Male Quartette, Bros. F. Eddenden, W. Clark, Walter Vollick, Comp. Geo. Newlove, and Bro. Fred Davidson. These Brethren and Companions went with me to each Re-Union and interspersed the addresses with splendid music and readings, and I am deeply grateful to them. There was also a large number of the Companions from the Chapters in Hamilton who attended these Re-Unions, which was an inspiration to me in carrying on my duties along this line. In round numbers about one thousand Brethren and Companions attended, and I am convinced that my efforts have not been in vain. This is a form of Masonic education that I strongly recommend, one that will bring results to the Chapters in due course. I have only one regret, and that is, Caledonia Chapter, which is the weak Chapter in the District, would not participate in having a Re-Union, and I feel that they not only missed a Masonic treat, but the Chapter would have been greatly

helped. This Chapter has not made the advancement I had hoped it would during my year.

I endeavoured to correct a condition that has existed in this District for a long time, namely: the St. John's Chapter, No. 6., Hamilton, meets on the second Thursday of each month, the St. Clair Chapter, Milton, and the Caledonia Chapter meet on the Thursday after New Moon. This brings the three Chapters meeting on the same night, for about nine meetings in the year. This condition, I think has a retarding effect on the progress of the two smaller Chapters, inasmuch as their officers and members do not have the opportunity of visiting the Chapters in the City, and the Companions of St. John's Chapter cannot visit them, and no good effect can be given to that great spirit of fellowship that enters so largely into Masonry, so far as these Chapters are concerned. I introduced the subject in both St. Clair and Caledonia Chapters, but got no response. I think the matter is of sufficient importance that Grand Chapter might take it into consideration and so regulate it that in every District where possible, there would not be only two Chapters in the same District meeting on the same night.

CALEDONIA CHAPTER, No. 236, CALEDONIA.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on September 3rd. I was introduced to the Chapter by Ex. Comp. Charles Fortune, who was the First Principal of the Chapter at its institution. There was a small attendance, but they gave me a hearty reception. They received their first application for membership for the year. On this occasion, I had intended to exemplify the Royal Arch degree for them, but lack of candidates prevented this. I delivered a somewhat lengthy address to them, exhorting them to greater activity in Capitular Masonry, and then suggested that the meeting was open to any Companion to ask questions on any point that was not clear, concerning Royal Arch Masonry. Several took advantage of this, and I endeavoured to answer the questions to the best of my ability. I felt that a profitable

evening had been spent, and I hope that the coming year will be one of greater prosperity to them. I was accompanied by my Secretary, Comp. Stephenson, and a number of Companions from Hamilton.

ANCASTER CHAPTER, No. 155, ANCASTER.—My official visit on this occasion, on October 6th, was very gratifying to me, and I was royally received. I was accompanied by a large number of Past Principals from Hamilton, whom I had organized into a team, and the Royal Arch degree was conferred by them on three candidates. I will have more to say regarding this team at the conclusion of my report. The future of this Chapter is very good. The Scribe E. is an efficient worker, his books are neatly kept, and the officers for the new year are energetic and capable. At the close of the Chapter, all repaired to the banquet room where a splendid repast was prepared, and a pleasant time spent. My Secretary, Comp. Stephenson, was present and prepared the report that was very satisfactory.

MCKAY CHAPTER, No. 243, STONEY CREEK.—I paid by official visit to this Chapter on October 7th and was warmly received by Ex. Comp. Lee. This is the baby Chapter of the District, and while it has made some progress this year, it is not as prosperous as I had hoped it would be, but its officers are very capable. I have witnessed them confer the Royal Arch degree in a manner that was very creditable, and while the hand of depression has been felt this year, I have no doubt that its future prospects are bright. The books of the Chapter are neatly kept, and the members are enthusiastic. My Secretary and a number of Hamilton Companions accompanied me on this visit.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 6, HAMILTON.—I officially visited this my mother Chapter on October 8th, where I was warmly received. There was a large number of Companions present. The officers conferred the Mark Master Mason degree in a very

satisfactory manner. My Secretary, Comp. Stephenson, reported that he had found the books of the Chapter neatly kept, and the Chapter in a healthy condition. I have attended all but one of the meetings this year, and am sure this Chapter will go on upholding the best traditions of Masonry as it has done for so many years. I was also privileged to attend the December Convocation, when the team of Past Principals that did such valiant service during the year conferred the Royal Arch degree in its usual efficient manner. I will long remember my official visit, when I was made the recipient of a gold Eversharp pencil. I have many pleasant recollections of my attendance in this Chapter.

ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, NO. 75, MILTON.—It was indeed my misfortune that On October 14th a business engagement took me to a distant city at midnight, and my official visit was planned for the evening of the 15th. I was able, however, to get M. Ex. Comp. Geo. Moore to take my place, and the team of Past Principals accompanied him. I was told that the Royal Arch degree was never conferred in Milton in such an efficient manner before. I received a very gratifying report from M. Ex. Comp. Moore, and I am deeply indebted to him for his kindness to me. I am sure it was an agreeable surprise to the Companions at Milton. This is only one of the many occasions when M. Ex. Comp. Moore has been of invaluable assistance to me, and I will ever cherish in memory his kind act. My Secretary, Comp. Stephenson, was also present and reports that the Chapter has a very painstaking Scribe E. who keeps the books very carefully and that the Chapter is in a healthy condition.

WHITE OAK CHAPTER, NO. 104, OAKVILLE.—I officially inspected this Chapter on October 20th, accompanied by my Secretary, Comp. Stephenson, and the team of Past Principals, and the Royal Arch degree was again conferred on three candidates. I was heartily welcomed by the Companions. For

some years past this Chapter has not made very rapid strides, and this year is no exception, but I am impressed that the future is brighter than it has been for some time. A staff of officers have been elected for the coming year, whom I think will take a more active part in Chapter work; also that the Chapter has now a fine new Temple in which to meet—a splendid Temple that serves the needs of both the Symbolic Lodge and Chapter. This undoubtedly will be an inspiration to the Companions, and I am looking for greater prosperity for this Chapter.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 224, HAMILTON.—On November 2nd, I officially visited this Chapter when I received a warm welcome. I assumed the Sceptre and conducted the election of officers for the coming year. This Chapter has been most unfortunate. In 1924 the Z., Ex. Comp. W. R. Whatley, was removed by death, and the Past Principals carried on. This year the Ex. Z., Ex Comp. James Will, on account of business was moved to Detroit, and the Past Principals again took charge of the Chapter. In spite of these handicaps the Chapter has carried on, and while not in a strong financial position, I have no doubt that at no distant future they will be enjoying their full share of prosperity. An enjoyable hour was spent in the banquet room, at the close of the Chapter. Comp. Stephenson reported that the books of the Scribe E. were neatly kept.

THE HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 2, HAMILTON.—It was a great pleasure for me to pay my official visit to this old Chapter on November 27th, a Chapter whose history bristles with antiquity, and who has always occupied a high position among Royal Craftsmen. I was very warmly received. I took charge of the election of officers for the ensuing year. This Chapter is steadily discharging its duties and maintaining its high position, and I have no doubt that it will continue to do so for many years. My Secretary reported the books in good condition, and the

Scribe E. is a most painstaking and efficient officer. I have at various times during the year witnessed this Chapter, as well as other Chapters in Hamilton, do their work in a very satisfactory manner, and I have no doubt but that the future prosperity of The Hiram Chapter, No. 2, is assured.

HAMILTON CHAPTER, No. 175, HAMILTON.—I was warmly received in this Chapter on December 15th. My esteemed friend, R. Ex. Comp. W. M. Logan, acting as Director of Ceremonies, presented me to the Ex. Z. I witnessed the beautiful ceremony of installation under the direction of M. Ex. Comp.

Geo. Moore, who long ago established himself as a Master Craftsman in this ceremony. The officers of this Chapter are expert workmen. The Secretary reported that the Scribe E. was a most efficient officer. After the Chapter closed a very pleasant hour was spent in the banquet room. I was privileged on this occasion to have M. Ex. Comp. Davis present both in the Chapter and at the banquet. I have no doubt but that the future of this Chapter will be of steady progress.

The team of Past Principals who accompanied me on three occasions and went to Milton with M. Ex. Comp. Geo. Moore, did a very important work in preserving that uniformity in our degree work which is so much desired. I acted as First Principal on three occasions and am fully cognizant of the capable manner in which the other officers performed their duties. I am very grateful to them. Space will not permit me to name all the Companions to whom I am indebted, but the goodly company that were with me on all my visits made my work a pleasure, and was an inspiration to the Companions wherever we went.

In summing up in general terms, I would say, that the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Hamilton District, No. 5, is in a healthy condition. The amount of outstanding dues of the various Chapters is being materially reduced, and while the

hand of depression has been felt during the year, it now seems that general conditions are showing gradual improvement. I have addressed the Companions in the District some thirty odd times on various phases of Masonry, and my remarks have always been designed as words of encouragement, which I trust will in due course bear fruit. I never realized until I began to prepare this report what frail things words were when used as payment for services rendered, and I hope that the large number of Royal Craftsmen, who so willingly, and who did so materially assist me, will accept these words as having the utmost sincerity of purpose. My year has been one that I will never forget. My circle of friends has been greatly widened, and new sources of Masonic knowledge have been opened to me. I trust that future occasions will be frequent, when I can renew the many splendid memories of my year as Grand Superintendent.

Fraternally submitted.

S. S. FORBES,

Grand Supt. Hamilton District, No. 5.

Hamilton, Ont.

HURON DISTRICT, No. 6.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have great pleasure in submitting for your consideration my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Huron District during the past year.

I desire to express my sincere thanks to the Companions for the honour and distinction bestowed upon me in electing me to the high and important office of Grand Superintendent, and for the many other courtesies received at their hands. I have endeavoured to discharge my duties with a full appreciation of the confidence placed in me and of the responsibility of the office. My task has been made easier and pleasanter by the uniform kindness and hearty co-operation extended to me throughout the whole District.

I am glad to report harmony and progress generally throughout the whole District. I have not been called upon to settle many differences during my term of office. The work witnessed in the different Chapters was of a uniform high order. The Excellent Zs. and officers of the different Chapters are enthusiastic, and are anxious to do their work as perfectly as possible, in accordance with Grand Chapter requirements. They are capable of managing their Chapters with skill and ability, as men and as Royal Arch Masons should while acting in conjunction with their Companions for the betterment of mankind.

I have endeavoured to encourage visiting throughout the District between the different Chapters. I find this an excellent way for officers to pick up work and to work out little points to harmonize with the ritual; also in this way the Companions of the Districts become better acquainted, making many new and lasting friendships.

I wish especially to commend the work of the various Scribes E. Their office is one of great im-

portance in the efficient working of the Chapters, and I am pleased to report that I found them all to be capable men. In this connection it seems to me that the records might be simplified and greater uniformity secured if a uniform set of books were devised. Some good loose-leaf systems are now available, and I am sure that a change would be welcomed and appreciated by all the Scribes E.

BERNARD CHAPTER, No. 146, LISTOWEL.—On May 8th I had the pleasure of making my first official visit to Bernard Chapter accompanied by Ex. Comp. T. S. Read, and was given a cordial welcome by the Companions. Ex. Comp. R. H. Archibald and his staff of officers conferred the Royal Arch degree admirably, and I feel that the Companions are to be congratulated in having officers who do the work in such an impressive and efficient manner. The Scribe E. has his books in splendid shape, and the Chapter is in a prosperous condition. After a very enjoyable supper, a social hour was spent in song and story, and in listening to speeches by R. Ex. Comp. Blackmore, Ex. Comps. Watson and Archibald, and others.

THE MALLOCH CHAPTER, No. 66, SEAFORTH.—On June 15th, I visited this Chapter, accompanied by a number of Companions of Lucknow Chapter. There was a splendid attendance of members and a number of visiting Companions, including R. Ex. Comp. N. F. Newton, of Parkhill. The Royal Arch degree was very impressively conferred by Ex. Comp. H. E. Jeffery and his staff of officers, all showing keen interest in the work. The records of the Chapter are kept in fine shape. I had the honour, assisted by the R. Ex. Comp. Newton and a number of Past Principals, of presenting jewels to several Past Principals, and judging from the number of Past Zs. who are still taking a keen interest in the work of The Malloch Chapter, it is assured of future success.

HURON CHAPTER, No. 30, GODERICH.—On September 15th, I visited this Chapter accompanied by a number of Lucknow Companions and received a hearty welcome. There was a splendid attendance. Ex. Comp. H. Tichborne and his staff of officers conferred the Royal Arch degree in a most able and efficient manner. It was a pleasure to see the manner in which this work was done. No fault could be found. Each officer showed that time and thought had been used in the preparation of his work. The Chapter is in a sound financial condition, and R. Ex. Comp. Dunlop has his books in good shape. I had the pleasure of meeting R. Ex. Comp. M. E. Sherwood, of Woodstock, who had motored over from Wingham with Ex. Comp. Jobb and several other Wingham Companions, notwithstanding the rain. The work of the evening being ended, we adjourned to the banquet hall where the tables were loaded with good things, and we spent a social hour or so. The addresses were good as were also the songs sung by several of the Companions.

HAVELOCK CHAPTER, No. 63, KINCARDINE.—I had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter on October 16th, accompanied by Comp. E. N. Hodgins, of Lucknow, and while the weather was bad there was a good attendance. Ex. Comp. Robt. Patterson and his staff of officers conferred the Royal Arch degree in their usual faultless manner. Ex. Comp. Hall has his books in excellent order and the Chapter is in good financial condition. I always enjoy a visit to Havelock Chapter as the Companions make one feel so much at home. R. Ex. Comp. Miller, one of the oldest Grand Superintendents of the District, is a pillar in the Chapter, and is one of the most regular in attendance. The increasing band of Past Zs., working with the new officers and Companions are a tower of strength to the Chapter. A very pleasant hour was spent in the banquet hall, and the addresses were enjoyed by all.

LEBANON CHAPTER, No. 84, WINGHAM.—On November 17th, I had the pleasure of visiting this

Chapter and was received most cordially. Ex. Comp. H. J. Jobb is a most efficient First Principal and conducted the election of officers and other business of the evening with promptness and dispatch. The officers are well versed in their work. The Chapter room is well equipped and nicely arranged. The books, under the care of Ex. Comp. Nash, are in good order. There were a number of visitors present from Brussels and Lucknow. The "Fourth Degree" was enjoyed by all, after which there were a number of splendid addresses.

CHANCERY CHAPTER, No. 130, SOUTHAMPTON.—On November 19th, I made my Official visit to this Chapter, accompanied by a number of Lucknow Companions, and received a hearty welcome. The attendance was not large, owing, no doubt, to the fact that it was an Emergent Meeting, and while they did not have any degree work, R. Ex. Comp. Hillmer assured me that Ex. Comp. Boundy and his officers had the work well in hand. The Scribe E.'s books are in good order, under the care of R. Ex. Comp. Hillmer. At the banquet which followed the meeting, R. Ex. Comp. Scott, acted as toastmaster, who was in splendid form, and the hour was spent in the most enjoyable manner.

LUCKNOW CHAPTER, No. 147, LUCKNOW.—On September 29th, the above Chapter held a "Master Masons' Night" and there was a large attendance of Companions from the surrounding District present. R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., addressed the Royal Arch Masons at seven o'clock on the three capitular degrees of Masonry, and at eight thirty the Master Masons were invited into the Chapter room, when he gave them a most instructive address on the three symbolic degrees. All the Brethren and Companions who were fortunate enough to be present were delighted with these instructive addresses.

On November 27th, I made my official visit to my mother Chapter and was received in the usual hearty manner. Ex. Comp. Davison and his staff of

officers conferred the Mark Master Mason degree in an efficient manner. This Chapter is the smallest in the District, but the Companions are anxious to do good work. The credit of holding the Chapter together for a number of years was largely due to the untiring efforts of Comp. W. W. Hill. The prospects of this Chapter are brighter.

TECUMSEH CHAPTER, NO. 24, STRATFORD.—On November 27th, I had the pleasure of visiting Tecumseh Chapter and was most cordially received by Ex. Comp. E. A. Robertson and his officers and Companions. On this occasion the Holy Royal Arch degree was conferred in a most impressive manner, showing that time and effort had not been spared in the preparation of the work. Altogether I would say that the work as conferred by this Chapter is as near perfect as is humanly possible. I am pleased to state that this Chapter is in a flourishing condition, and the records in care of R. Ex. Comp. J. Stevenson are models. A pleasing feature of the "Fourth Degree" was talent provided by the Companions for the entertainment. This was one of my most pleasant visits, and will long be remembered by me.

I regret to report that I have not been able to make arrangements with either St. James' Chapter, of St. Marys, or with Elliot Chapter, of Mitchell, to pay a visit during my term of office.

I would like to suggest to the Chapters of the District that they invite the incoming Grand Superintendent to visit their Chapters as soon as possible after his election. I am sure this little act of courtesy will be very much appreciated by him.

In concluding my term of office as Grand Superintendent of Huron District, I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation to the various Chapters for the honour bestowed upon me. The year has been full of profit and pleasure and will ever remain with me a pleasant memory.

Fraternally submitted.

F. T. ARMSTRONG,
Lucknow, Ont. Grand Supt. Huron District, No. 6.

NIAGARA DISTRICT, No. 7.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I take great pleasure in submitting my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Niagara District, No. 7, for the year 1925.

SMITHVILLE CHAPTER, No. 240, SMITHVILLE.—On June 9th, accompanied by Ex. Comps. Fralick and Foster, of Willson Chapter, I paid my official visit to this Chapter. I was most cordially received by the Companions and introduced to the Chapter by Ex. Comp. E. Merritt. The Mark Master Mason degree was creditably conferred by the regular officers and the general tone of the work was impressive. The books are kept in a neat and efficient manner and the dues well paid. Although a young Chapter, the enthusiasm of the members gives every indication of continued interest and prosperity.

NIAGARA CHAPTER, No. 55, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE.—On the occasion of my visit to this Chapter I was accompanied by several members of my home Chapter, the date being June 12th. R. Ex. Comps. J. A. Coleman and F. J. McClellan introduced me to the Chapter, and I was cordially welcomed by Ex. Comp. A. Wood, Z., on behalf of the Companions. Although the weather was very warm the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch was ably and efficiently conferred, the presiding officer being assisted by Ex. Comp. J. F. Riggs and V. Ex. Comp. J. Brown. Interest is well maintained and the books properly kept.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, No. 19, ST. CATHARINES.—The first of my visits after the summer vacation was on Friday, September 11th, to St. Catharines. On this occasion a number of the Companions of Willson Chapter went with me and we were received in a most cordial manner. R. Ex. Comps. Burtch and Lindsay introduced me to the Companions and I was received by Ex. Comp. Rundle.

The work was in the Mark Master Mason degree and this was well done, the officers being assisted by V. Ex. Comp. C. Brown and Ex. Comps. Herod, Hare and McKay. This is a real live chapter, the officers prompt and efficient, and the members turn out well. The fact that the books of the Scribe E. are in the capable hands of R. Ex. Comp. Lindsay needs no further comment. After the work was completed, we adjourned to the banquet room and were regaled with many good things and a pleasant time spent.

MCCALLUM CHAPTER, No. 29, DUNNVILLE.—September 18th was the date of my official visit to this Chapter and four of the Companions of Willson Chapter made the trip with me. I was introduced to the Companions by R. Ex. Comp. Yocum and received by Ex. Comp. Lymburner. Having no candidates available for any of the degrees and the attendance being rather small on account of the Military Inspection taking place, a longer time than usual was spent in a very profitable manner when refreshments were served. The Chapter property is all in good condition and the books well kept by the Scribe E.

KING HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 57, PORT COLBORNE.—I visited this Chapter on October 1st, and on this occasion I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. McCracken and received on behalf of the Companions by the presiding Z., Ex. Comp. H. P. Roe. Two candidates were exalted to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch, the work being performed by the officers in a very able manner, assisted by R. Ex. Comp. McCracken, who gave the Mystical Lecture very capably. R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Watts and several Companions from Hugh Murray Chapter, of Bridgeburg, were present. The books of the Scribe E. are well kept by Comp. Lewis Smith, dues well paid, and the Chapter property carefully kept.

GRIMSBY CHAPTER, No. 69, GRIMSBY.—On October 5th I paid a visit to this Chapter and was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Randall and received in

a most cordial manner by Ex. Comp. Russ. The degree of Mark Master Mason was worked in a very capable manner, the officers being assisted in the work by Ex. Comps. Carpenter and Phipps. The Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. Randall, has the books of the Chapter in excellent shape and reports dues well paid. After the completion of the work, I was escorted to the banquet hall, where a splendid repast was laid before us. This Chapter is to be congratulated on the excellent quarters in which they meet, and the furniture and appointments are a credit to the Order. The members of this Chapter, meeting in the heart of the fruit belt, are fortunate in many respects.

MOUNT NEBO CHAPTER, No. 76, NIAGARA FALLS.
—On October 16th, I paid a visit to this Chapter and was accorded a very hearty welcome. R. Ex. Comp. F. Swannell introduced me to the Companions and I was graciously received by Ex. Comp. Ware, the presiding Z. The most Excellent Master Mason degree was conferred in a very able manner. The books of the Scribe E. are in good condition and well kept. After the conclusion of the Work, we were entertained to refreshments, and a pleasant time spent in fraternal and social intercourse. This Chapter is now meeting in new quarters on Victoria Avenue, and on completion of all alterations to the building they will be housed in one of the finest Masonic properties in this section of the Province.

HUGH MURRAY CHAPTER, No. 184, BRIDGEBURG.
—My Official visit to this Chapter was paid on November 10th, when I was accompanied by Ex. Comps. J. F. Thorpe and J. C. Gothard and Comp. Kendall, of Willson Chapter. I was introduced to the Chapter by R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Watts and received on behalf of the Companions by Ex. Comp. Haynes. The degree of Most Excellent Master Mason was conferred in a capable and efficient manner, after which we adjourned to the banquet table and a very pleasant and profitable time was spent there. The books of this Chapter are in the capable

hands of Comp. North, as Scribe E., and the Mark Book is right up to date. This Chapter now meets in rather inadequate quarters, but early in 1926 expect to move to new and up-to-date rooms in a building now in course of completion.

WILLSON CHAPTER, No. 64, WELLAND.—My last official visit was paid to my home Chapter on the evening of November 25th. Ex. Comps. G. Cook and J. C. Fralick introduced me, and I was received in a cordial manner by Ex. Comp. Thorpe, Z. The Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch was conferred on two candidates and the work was ably done by the officers assisted by Ex. Comps. Fralick, Cook and myself. Comp. George Wells is an efficient Scribe E. and shows no lack of interest in the manner in which the books of the Chapter are kept and its transactions recorded. After the work was over and the Chapter closed, refreshments were served and a pleasant hour spent. This brought my labours as the Official Representative of the Most Excellent Grand Z. to a completion and the many pleasant events of the year are impressed on my memory, as reminders of the ties which binds us together in this great fellowship.

During my visits I have endeavoured to emphasize in all Chapters the necessity of keeping the Mark Books up to date, and feel sure that this injunction will be a means to this end. In concluding my report I wish to thank Ex. Comp. J. F. Thorpe, whom I appointed as my Secretary, for his able assistance during my term of office, and all Companions who have in any way helped to make my visits a success, and I trust that my successor receives the same hearty co-operation, and is received in the same cordial and friendly manner as I have been.

Fraternally submitted.

J. W. HOLSTOCK,

Grand Supt. Niagara District, No. 7.
Welland, Ont.

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT, No. 8.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I beg to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Toronto East District, No. 8, for the year 1925. At the outset permit me to thank the Companions of this District for the great honour that they did in electing me to the high office of District Superintendent and for their continued consideration throughout the year. I also feel deeply grateful to you, Most Excellent Sir, for confirming the election, and I can assure you that it has been a real pleasure to act as the representative of such a distinguished Mason. I also wish to acknowledge the great assistance that I have constantly received from R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E. My thanks are also due to R. Ex. Comp. George L. Gardiner for acting in the Inspection of Victoria Chapter, Thornhill, when it was impossible for me to be present, and to R. Ex. Comp. W. E. Hopkings for inspecting my own Chapter, University Chapter, No. 241. I feel further that the District owes considerable to the faithful and valuable services rendered by Ex. Comp. Percy W. Rogers, the District Secretary, who accompanied me on all my official visits.

The year just closing has been a very memorable one in this District for many reasons. We have been greatly honoured by four visits of the Most Excellent Grand Z., every one of which proved a great inspiration to the Companions, who fully appreciate the sacrifice made by M. Ex. Comp. Davis. The enthusiasm shown at his reception on every occasion was not merely superficial, but genuine. Undoubtedly the most outstanding feature of the year was the celebration of the Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John of their 125th anniversary on October 16th, 1925. This unique occasion reflected great credit on the First Principal, Ex. Comp. W. E. Struthers and

the officers and Companions who so loyally supported him on this occasion. The function was splendidly managed and was as large as the capacity of the main Blue Lodge room and auditorium would permit. It certainly was one of the largest and most influential functions of the Royal Craft that it has been my pleasure to attend. The climax of this evening was the presentation by the "Grand Old Man" of Capitular Masonry, R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, of an address on the history of St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4. This exhaustive record he presented in printed form to the Companions present after giving a very delightful epitome of its contents. As our Grand Scribe E. gave us a list of a few of the leading members of this Chapter, it became very clear how valuable an asset St. Andrew and St. John Chapter was in the building up of this community. I would recommend strongly to all the Companions of this and other Districts, the careful reading of this historic account.

Another grand occasion was the celebration of their 50th anniversary by St. Paul's Chapter, No. 65. Then, too, this Chapter was honoured by the presence of Most Excellent Companion Davis. Although there was not quite such a large gathering as on the former occasion, it was very impressive and dignified. Their fiftieth mile stone was duly placed with a very suitable ceremony. Most Excellent the Grand First Principal expressed himself as being very well pleased and complimented the Excellent First Principal, Thomas Wibby, his officers and Companions.

There have been many other special functions throughout the District, so many in fact that it would be difficult to do justice without enumerating them all. Personally, however, the third evening that impressed me most and will live long in my memory, was "Empire Night" at the Beaches Chapter. This function reflects much credit on Ex. Comp. Berkinshaw and his staff. The toast of the evening, "The Empire," was honoured by two splendid ad-

dresses, viz., those of R. Ex. Comp. George L. Gardiner and Comp. Lt.-Col. Cecil G. Williams.

I have found throughout the District, without exception, that the First Principals have measured up to the dignity of the high office which they sustain, have fully mastered their ritual and have been untiring in their efforts to arrange a better year than the past for the Companions whom they so faithfully serve. They have sacrificed freely of their time and energy in order that the work might be well done, the lessons not only taught, but practised, and good programmes provided.

A glance over the summonses of the past year reveals the fact that outside of the Chapter room, many splendid and varied programmes have been carried out: addresses by prominent persons, ladies' nights, patriotic nights, fraternal visits, festivals and picnics, at which the children of deceased Companions were not forgotten.

It will be noted that during the year a total of 145 candidates were exalted, which is 51 less than last year (1924), and further that where there was a net increase in membership in 1924 throughout the District of 122, this year the growth is only 26. This, however, should be no cause for pessimism, and if the clouds which have been darkening the financial horizon for the past years should lift as there is every indication at present, I am assured everywhere that many more candidates will present themselves. The officers and Companions everywhere throughout the District are optimistic and see around them the silver lining of the cloud, and are sparing no effort in the interest of our Royal Craft.

The hand of Death has lain very heavily on our District during the year. The figures will show that whereas last year nine of our Companions answered the last call, this year we mourn the loss of twenty-seven.

Throughout the whole District there is a very active body of Past First Principals, whose names I feel should be recorded in an honour roll by Grand

Chapter for the faithful services which they are constantly rendering to their individual Chapters.

During the year I have visited every Chapter in the District at least twice, with the single exception of Victoria Chapter, Thornhill. This omission was due to the fact that there are three Chapters in this District that meet on the second Wednesday of the month, Victoria being one of them. However, Victoria Chapter has the advantage of the presence of the Immediate Past Grand Superintendent, a veteran worker for Capitular Masonry. My official visits were as follows:—

ST. ANDREW AND ST. JOHN CHAPTER, No. 4, TORONTO.—Accompanied by Ex. Comp. Percy W. Rogers, I paid my Official visit to St. Andrew and St. John Chapter on Friday, March 20th. Ex. Comp. W. E. Struthers, First Principal, presiding, the regular officers were all present and well supported by a large attendance of the Companions, many of whom were Past Principals and Grand Chapter officers. It was delightful to see R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith at this Convocation, and indeed the register shows that he is one of the main stays of this venerable Chapter.

I was expecting the best and was not disappointed. At the table we were favoured by an instructive and interesting address by Ex. Comp. Gordon B. Jackson, B.A., LL.B., Second Principal of Port Credit Chapter. During the year this Chapter celebrated the 90th birthday of V. Ex. Comp. John King.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER, No. 8, TORONTO.—The official visit to King Solomon's Chapter was made on September 24th, when the officers under the able leadership of the First Principal, Ex. Comp. John Stephen, conferred the degree of the Holy Royal Arch in a very able manner.

It was a great pleasure to see so many of the Past Principals present and assisting in the work.

With such a body of able and anxious to serve, the stability of the Chapter is assured.

I am glad to be able to report that Ex. Comp. John W. Wood, Second Principal, is gradually recovering his health and the Chapter is to be congratulated on having so able an Ex. Comp. in the Chair of "Joshua" as Ex. Comp. Crawford ready and willing to undertake the responsibility of the First Principal, and thus without preventing the promotion of other officers, give Ex. Comp. Wood a year's comparative rest.

I am further sorry to note the retirement from office of the Scribe E., Ex. Comp. Fred. D. Hunt, who has been a most faithful and efficient servant of the Chapter.

The Chapter is to be complimented on the new Chapter jewel adopted, and it is to be hoped that the Companions will always wear it when present at their Craft Lodge. It is legitimate and good advertising. Among the addresses given during the year, should be noted those of M. Ex. Comp. Col. Ponton and Comp. John A. Rowland, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

DORIC CHAPTER, NO. 60, NEWMARKET.—The official visit to Doric Chapter was made on Wednesday, April 1st, when Ex. Comp. Geo. A. Winn, assisted by his officers and Companions, conferred the Holy Royal Arch degree in a very creditable manner.

This Chapter, although small in numbers, is in excellent condition, and with its beautifully furnished new Lodge room, with every member personally interested in the work and with such harmony and companionship among all that it was a pleasure to see Doric Chapter once again on the pathway to success.

The First Principal is to be congratulated on a most successful year, and there is no doubt that as a Past Z. he will continue to lend his support.

YORK CHAPTER, NO. 62, TORONTO.—This Chapter was visited officially on Friday, October 2nd, on

which occasion Ex. Comp. A. J. Goldsmith and the staff of officers performed their work with honour to themselves and credit to their Chapter. The Past Principals of this Chapter form a particularly strong body and stand very loyally by their organization.

A very interesting feature in the monthly summons is the printed list of the members with their addresses.

This Chapter is very fortunate in having a Past Z., in the person of Ex. Comp. A. B. Dalby, willing to again assume the responsibilities of the presiding officer when through illness and death, promotions could not be made. Visitors at York Chapter are certainly made to feel very much at home.

ST. PAUL'S CHAPTER, No. 65, TORONTO.—The official visit to St. Paul's Chapter was made on Wednesday, October 14th, the evening of the celebration of their 50th anniversary which I have already mentioned earlier in the report.

On this occasion Ex. Comp. Thos. Wibby conferred the Royal Arch degree and was most ably assisted by a number of the Past Principals and officers of the Chapter. On a former occasion I had the pleasure to witness the Mark Master Mason degree when the officers were also assisted by a large number of distinguished Past Zs. The future of St. Paul's Chapter appears to be as bright as its past history.

ORIENT CHAPTER, No. 79, TORONTO.—I made my official visit to Orient Chapter on Thursday, October 8th and was loyally received as your representative, as indeed I have been at all the Chapters of the District. A more loyal group of Chapters to the Grand Body does not exist. This Chapter, to my knowledge, has made many fraternal visits during the year, and while the First Principal, Geo. W. Wood, has proved himself to be an excellent presiding officer, he has been most ably assisted by the Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. D. S. L. MacDougall, in all those func-

tions which bring the members together socially. The ritualistic work in the Chapter room is uniformly well done by all the officers from the Principals to the Stewards. The junior officers not only performed their allotted tasks well, but anticipated those movements which lead to confusion and took the necessary precautions. As a consequence the work at the Veils was a delight.

SUCCOTH CHAPTER, No. 135, UXBRIDGE.—I regret very much that circumstances have prevented me from paying this splendid Chapter a second visit. Their Lodge room is worth travelling miles to see. The hand paintings on the equipment and hung on the walls are undoubtedly the work of an ardent member of the Craft and an artist. These might well be envied by any of our larger and wealthier Chapters. Their summons is a pleasure to see as every available space is filled with a modern proverb or useful information.

The official visit was made on Thursday, April 8th, when the First Principal, Ex. Comp. T. C. Leask, with his officers conferred the Royal Arch degree in an exceedingly creditable manner.

The strength of Succoth Chapter depends not only on an excellent staff of officers but on two very enthusiastic Past Principals, R. Ex. Comp. W. S. Ormiston and R. Ex. Comp. V. M. Hare, Scribe E. This Chapter, lying in the north-east angle of the District, is a gem of which we should be proud.

THE ST. PATRICK CHAPTER, No. 145, TORONTO.—I have enjoyed very much my several visits to this strong and influential Chapter, and particularly would I mention the Grand Irish Night, March 21st, their name day. On this occasion we were all delighted by the addresses at the table. Reference should also be made to the delightful music under the direction of Comp. E. R. Bowles.

Then there was the anniversary night, November 30th, with a banquet, a concert, dancing and cards—a party that will be remembered by the members

and guests of The St. Patrick Chapter for time to come.

The official visit was made on Saturday evening, October 17th, when Ex. Comp. Richard H. Dee and his staff of officers conferred accurately and impressively the degree of the Holy Royal Arch. The large Blue room was well filled, and if space would permit, much might be said of the magnificent equipment. The Scribe E., V. Ex. Comp. W. R. Ledger, is a tower of strength to this Chapter.

THE BEACHES CHAPTER, No. 163, TORONTO.—I have made many visits to The Beaches Chapter and from the first was made to feel at home among friends. Their "Empire Night," to which reference has already been made, was a most successful function. The First Principal, Ex. Comp. E. C. Berkinshaw, is not only a credit to The Beaches, but to the District and the Royal Craft as a whole. His influence not only within but outside the Chapter room, is maintaining the high reputation of the Institution. I have a feeling that they are more anxious about companionship and character building than about making Royal Arch Masons. The degree work of all three degrees is uniformly well done, and a pleasure to watch.

The official visit was made on Monday, May 4th, when the officers and Past Principals did their work before a large and critical audience in a manner highly creditable to The Beaches and Royal Arch Masonry.

VICTORIA CHAPTER, No. 205, THORNHILL.—The official visit to Victoria Chapter was made on Wednesday evening, May 13th, by R. Ex. Comp. Geo. L. Gardiner, who reports that the Chapter is in a flourishing condition, the officers well qualified to confer the degrees, and the books of the Chapter well kept. He reports that the First Principal, Ex. Comp. D. W. Cooper, and his staff of officers conferred the Holy Royal Arch degree in a very impressive manner. The Chapter has recently made a considerable

improvement in the Chapter room. They, together with Patterson Lodge, have completely remodelled the Lodge room floor in a manner that will give them a very pleasant suite of rooms. These will no doubt be opened shortly with suitable functions.

ST. ALBAN'S CHAPTER, No. 217, TORONTO.—I have attended many meetings of St. Alban's Chapter during my year of office and have enjoyed the companionship of Ex. Comp. J. L. House, his officers and Companions. They are to be congratulated on a very successful year, both as regards the quality of meetings held and the number of candidates exalted. They have not only made Royal Arch Masons of these candidates, but have welded them into the companionship of the Chapter. Ex. Comp. J. L. House is an excellent presiding officer, knows his work well, confers his part of the degrees impressively and expects every officer in the line to do the same. They work in harmony as a team and on the evening of my official visit, October 27th, conferred the Royal Arch degree most impressively. They are undoubtedly a credit to this District. The music rendered on this occasion by the Orpheus Quartette was delightful. St. Alban's Chapter is further to be congratulated on the beautifully designed new jewel just issued to its members.

BEAVER CHAPTER, No. 225, TORONTO.—The event of the year at Beaver Chapter was the visit of the Grand Z., M. Ex. Comp. W. H. Davis, on the evening of April 8th. He was accompanied on this, as on other visits within the District, by R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E.

The First Principal, Ex. Comp. H. A. Miller, with the officers and Past Principals, conferred the Holy Royal Arch degree apparently to the entire satisfaction of the Most Excellent Grand Z. The remarks of M. Ex. Comp. Davis were very happy and appropriate, and I am sure that the members of Beaver Chapter and their guests will long remember this occasion.

My official visit was made on Wednesday, November 11th, and once again, the Supreme Degree was conferred in such a manner as to be highly creditable. The progress of this Chapter and the number of candidates admitted during the year are highly satisfactory.

AURORA CHAPTER, No. 235, AURORA.—My official visit to this Chapter, one of the baby members of the District, was on Thursday evening, April 17th, when Ex. Comp. F. R. Underhill, the First Principal, and his staff of officers conferred the Royal Arch degree very impressively and earnestly. I had the feeling throughout the degree that every officer was doing his best to instruct the candidates and all knew their work well.

As, no doubt, most of the members of this District know, the Lodge room at Aurora is magnificent and the equipment and furniture is splendid, with much of it the handiwork of the Companions, I have much pleasure in reporting Aurora Chapter is doing well.

UNIVERSITY CHAPTER, No. 241, TORONTO.—The official visit of inspection of this Chapter was made by R. Ex. Comp. W. E. Hopkings, on November 3rd, who reports the Chapter in a very satisfactory condition and that the Ex. First Principal, Hyndman Irwin, and his staff of officers conferred the degree of the Holy Royal Arch very impressively on the candidates. He particularly complimented Ex. Comp. Irwin on his part of the work, and is further very optimistic of the future of this, the youngest Chapter of the District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. H. C. WRIGHT,

Grand Supt. Toronto East District, No. 8.

Toronto, Ont.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT, No. 8A.

*To the Most Excellent, the Grand First Principal,
Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter
of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:*

I have the honour to present the report on the Toronto West District, No. 8a. At this point permit me to express my appreciation and gratitude to Ex. Comp. R. E. Port, my valued District Secretary, for his highly esteemed assistance and mature advice. Had it not been for him, I could never have attempted nor carried through the duties of this very responsible office satisfactorily.

I have visited every Chapter in this District, at least, once, and after witnessing the ceremonial work, I am able to state that it is uniformly good. While some officers are endowed by nature with greater ritualistic ability than others, nevertheless, it is quite evident that all have endeavoured to interpret the beautiful Capitular degrees to the very best of their ability, and for this must be commended.

After carefully examining the registers of the various Chapters, I find that the senior officers are regular in their attendance at the Convocations. Unfortunately the same cannot be said of the junior officers. In certain Chapters there seems to be an idea prevalent on the parts of these latter that their office is not important, and in consequence, they are lax in their attendance. This is to be depreciated, and I would respectfully suggest to these Chapters, that, when election time comes around, preference be given to the more loyal supporters. This would induce these Companions to be more thoughtful of their responsibilities. On the part of certain Past Principals, there seems to be a tendency to become negligent after they have passed out of active office. Any Companion who is so forgetful of the Chapter which has honoured him cannot be too strongly condemned.

If as much thought and consideration were given by many Chapters to the internal economy as to the ceremonial work, it would greatly improve the former which, in some instances, is distinctly bad. Many Chapters list their regalia and paraphernalia at cost or replacement value, and by so doing are able to present a financial statement showing an excess of assets over liabilities. There are three Chapters in this District which show an excess of assets and which, if compelled to close their doors to-day, could not pay more than thirty or forty cents on the dollar.

The expenses for refreshments and talent is, in many cases, excessive. This has a serious influence and reacts unfavourably on the Chapter. The tendency to rush through the ceremonial work so as to get to the banquet room for the improperly called "Fourth Degree" is to be decried. The very use of this expression demonstrates the pernicious effect it has, by placing the gastric functions on the same level as the intellectual. When the total amount expended on refreshment and talent is placed along side that donated for benevolence, the true significance is apparent. Several Chapters in this District have no benevolent grants to their credit. I am keenly sensible of the fact that, in matters of finance, the constituent Chapter is a sovereign body. Nevertheless, the manner in which the finances are conducted has extensive secondary effects as to bring it within the jurisdiction of Grand Chapter. Injudicious expenditure necessitates candidates and this causes undue solicitation. Solicitation may bring in the applications but many of those to whom Royal Arch Masonry is thus "sold," do not come up for their degrees, and many of those who do, soon lose interest and fail to attend. A Chapter that has a number of candidates who have not come forward for their degrees, is decidedly on the wrong track.

Masonry is too cheap, both as regards fees and dues. A substantial increase in both is necessary, so as to enable the Chapter to take care of the cur-

rent expenses without having to depend upon candidates. A portion, at least, of every initiation fee should be placed in a reserve fund, the interest from which could revert to the general fund, but preferably be donated to benevolence. This might react against the habit of dual membership which probably would be a distinct advantage. It might also lessen the number of petitions, but would tend to improve the calibre of the initiates. It is the duty of the Fraternity to find a solution to these abuses in order that it may occupy the status which it should in the national life of this country. I would here like to exculpate the presiding Officers, as I am fully aware that the above abuses have developed through the process of time, and that each First Principal has inherited from his predecessor this unfortunate legacy.

OCCIDENT CHAPTER, No. 77, TORONTO.—The Annual Indian Night of Occident Chapter was held on the 10th of April. On this occasion no work was done, but the evening was devoted to fraternal and social intercourse. To many of the Companions of every Chapter, the social aspect is of a very important factor, and it is much better to devote the whole evening to such than to rush through the ceremonies. At any rate, a little sociability of the right kind does no one an injury and the opportunities are often lacking at the regular meetings.

I officially visited this Chapter on the 9th of October, and was loyally received by Ex. Comp. W. D. Sprinks, the First Principal. The degree of the Holy Royal Arch was presented for inspection and the work was performed in a highly efficient manner. The books of the Chapter are well kept and in order. The finances are exceptional as there is a large investment from which a yearly income is derived.

ANTIQUITY CHAPTER, No. 91, TORONTO.—My first official inspection was made at Antiquity Chapter on the 25th of March. There was a large attend-

ance and the Convocation was characterized by a truly Masonic spirit. R. Ex. Comp. John Marr very kindly accompanied me to enable me to pick up the threads of office where he left off. Ex. Comp. W. F. Bowerman, after a very hospitable welcome, proceeded with the work of the evening, that of conferring the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch. The ceremonial was performed in a highly creditable manner, marked by sincerity which could not fail to impress the candidates. The financial condition of this Chapter is first class. The books are in good order with the Mark Book up to date.

Antiquity each year gives a Christmas Tree to children and in this manner expends a large amount for benevolence. This Chapter cannot be too highly commended for its action.

SHEKINAH CHAPTER, No. 138, TORONTO.—On the 14th of April I visited Shekinah Chapter on the occasion of their entertaining Temple and Kilwinning Lodges. After the Master and Brethren of these Lodges had been welcomed by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. P. M. Grant, an address on Freemasonry was delivered by the Grand Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith. The speaker particularly stressed the intimate relationship which has always existed between Symbolic and the Royal Arch, both from the historical and symbolical points of view. Such meetings have a real value in the Masonic education of the Companions and Brethren.

I officially inspected this Chapter on the 13th of October. The ceremonial work presented was performed in an earnest and efficient manner. The District Secretary reports that the books are in order and well kept, and that the Mark Book is complete. The finances of this Chapter are also in a perfectly sound condition.

TORONTO CHAPTER, No. 185, TORONTO.—I was present at Toronto Chapter on the evening of the 18th of May. The work of the evening was the conferring of the Holy Royal Arch degree which was

presented by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. F. C. Becker, assisted by his officers and Past Principals. The assistance of a quartette on the floor greatly added to the impressiveness of the degree which was performed in a very impressive manner. An examination of the books show that the finances are in splendid shape, the books well kept and the Mark Book up to date.

PEEL CHAPTER, No. 195, BRAMPTON.—Having as I have so many friends in Peel Chapter, a visit to this Chapter is little different from attending my own. On the first of September we motored to Brampton and were loyally received by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. Conover, and the Companions. The work presented was the Most Excellent Master Mason degree and was performed in a very efficient manner. The finances are in a very satisfactory condition, the Chapter having a snug cash balance. The Mark Book and other books are in first class condition.

MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, No. 212, TORONTO.—On Tuesday, 5th of May, I attended Mount Sinai Chapter and was hospitably received by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. Cohen. The Holy Royal Arch degree was presented for inspection and the work was performed in a very efficient manner. I greatly enjoyed the rendition which was marked by an air of sincerity which was very gratifying. An examination of the books show them to be in good order except that the Mark Book is not completed. The Chapter is in good financial position, and has sufficient liquid assets to offset all liabilities.

MIMICO CHAPTER, No. 215, MIMICO.—On the evening of the 6th of May, Mimico Chapter was officially inspected. Ex. Comp. Eugene Stoll, the First Principal, and his officers conferred the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch in a manner characterized by an evident desire to interpret the meaning of these impressive ceremonies. Mimico Chapter is receiving into its membership some splendid types

of men, and with the formation of the two new Lodges in this vicinity good material will be more plentiful. In the past they had but one Lodge to draw from. The finances are in good condition. The books are all up to date and well kept. This is one of the very few Chapters in this District which deduct a depreciation of their regalia in the financial statement.

ULSTER CHAPTER, NO. 219, TORONTO.—I officially inspected Ulster Chapter on the 19th of November, and was welcomed by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. McKee. The ceremonial work presented was performed in a very creditable manner. This Chapter has unfortunately met with certain circumstances which have militated against its success. Financially the Chapter is not in a very healthy condition, but with care there is no reason why it should not resume its proper place in the Royal Craft. The books are well kept, and the future of the Chapter is bright.

LEBANON CHAPTER, NO. 220, LAMBTON MILLS.—On the 26th of April I was present at Lebanon Chapter, on which occasion this Chapter was visited by representatives from all the rural Chapters in the District. Mimico, Port Credit and Peel Chapters were represented. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred by a team picked from the four Chapters. The event was a great success and is to be made an annual affair to assist in bringing these outlying Chapters into closer association. I officially visited this Chapter on the 26th of November. The work presented by Ex. Comp. J. T. Philips and his officers was rendered in a very satisfactory manner. The finances of this Chapter are in good condition, the Mark Book is up to date, and the other books in proper shape.

PORT CREDIT CHAPTER, NO. 230, PORT CREDIT.—On the evening of the 5th of June, I visited this Chapter. There were a large number of Companions

present which packed the room to capacity. The degree of the Holy Royal Arch was conferred by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. William Fingland, assisted by his Past Principals and officers, in a very impressive manner. I was again present at Port Credit on the 2nd of October, on which occasion the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal visited the Chapter. On this occasion the Mark Master Mason degree was conferred in a very efficient manner. There is a fraternal spirit evident in this Chapter which is highly gratifying, being small in numbers, the Companions get to know one another that much better. The finances are in sound condition, the books are in order and the Mark Book up to date. Although the field is limited as regards numbers, the future of Port Credit Chapter is assured.

THE ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, No. 231, TORONTO.—On the occasion of the official visitation of the St. Clair Chapter on the 23rd of April, Ex. Comp. J. Woodland, assisted by the officers and Past Principals, conferred the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch in a correct manner which showed that much consideration had been given to the work. There is a splendid feeling of friendliness in the Chapter which immediately puts the visitor at his ease.

I again visited this Chapter on the 24th of September on which occasion the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal was present. The Royal Arch degree was again conferred and I was pleased to note the improvement in the work. I very pleasing incident was the presentation to the Chapter of four standards which had been painted by one of the Chapter members, Comp. H. Mitchell. The presentation was made by the Grand First Principal on behalf of the donors, Comps. K. Thompson, H. Mitchell, H. Johnson and A. Johnson.

The Mark Book is complete and the other books well kept. This Chapter has one of the best systems of bookkeeping in the District, though the finances are far from being in a healthy condition, as there is

a large outstanding indebtedness with but little liquid assets to meet it.

KING CYRUS CHAPTER, No. 232, TORONTO.—On the 19th of May, I was officially received by Ex. Comp. Fred Powers, First Principal of King Cyrus Chapter, with marked courtesy and loyalty. The holy Royal Arch degree was then presented for inspection. The ceremony was performed in a highly acceptable manner which left its imprint upon the candidates. This Chapter is taking in some splendid types of Masons, and they are being thoroughly absorbed into the Chapter. The books are in order, the Mark Book up to date and the finances are in good condition. The future of this Chapter is indeed bright.

OAKWOOD CHAPTER, No. 233, TORONTO.—A real pleasure was accorded me on the 27th of May when I visited Oakwood Chapter for the official inspection. Ex. Comp. McElwain, assisted by his officers and Past Principals, presented the Holy Royal Arch degree in a genuinely impressive manner. The character of the work was such as to show that these beautiful ceremonies were thoroughly understood and valued. The District Secretary informs me that the books are well kept, with the exception of the Mark Book, which is not up to date. The Finances of the Chapter are in a unhealthy condition as there is an excess of liabilities over assets. Careful and conservative financing will be necessary to put Oakwood on a sound basis.

HUMBER CHAPTER, No. 246, WESTON.—On the 29th of April I was present at the Consecration and Dedication of this Chapter. Humber Chapter had been instituted on the 18th of October, 1924, and has made splendid progress under the able guidance of R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Armstrong, Sr., the First Principal. The ceremonies on this occasion was conducted by the Grand First Principal, M. Ex. Comp. W. H. Davis, assisted by R. Ex. Comp. John Marr as Grand Second Principal, and R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Price as Grand Third Principal, and other Grand

and Past Grand Officers. There was a large attendance of Companions from the neighbouring Chapters which filled the new hall to capacity. Immediately following the Dedication, R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, installed the officers. During the evening R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Armstrong made the interesting announcement that the Chapter, after purchasing all necessary regalia and paraphernalia, was entirely free of debt. Humber Chapter surely deserves unstinted praise for having so well managed its finances as to be in such an enviable position so soon after its inception.

On the 5th of December I made the official inspection, when the Mark Master Mason degree was presented in a highly commendable manner. The books of the Chapter are well kept, but the Mark Book is not up to date. The Chapter owns its own regalia, and has a small cash balance. The future of this Chapter is assured.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks to my Excellent Companions by whose franchise I was elected to the office of Grand Superintendent, and to my Companions at large for their many good wishes and loyal support. The District is to be congratulated on the prevalence of harmony and the spirit of fraternity. Royal Arch Masonry is good at heart and whatever imperfections have been mentioned in this report have arisen from the weakness of human nature, and the influence of circumstances difficult to overcome. In particular, I wish to thank my Companions for their tokens of respect: Mount Sinai Chapter for a beautiful desk lamp, much needed and immediately put into use; St. Clair Chapter and the Companions of Peel Chapter for beautiful flowers sent to Mrs. Evans. In fact my whole term of office has been one real prolonged pleasure, a year of pleasure that is now a memory and will so remain until memory fades away.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

J. AUSTIN EVANS,

Grand Supt. Toronto West District No. 8a.
Toronto, Ont.

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Georgian District, No. 9, for the year 1925. I visited each Chapter in the District, at least once, and I wish to thank the officers and Companions of the various Chapters for the warm and cordial welcome given me on my official visits.

COUCHICHIING CHAPTER, No. 198, ORILLIA.—On June 12th, I made my first official visit to this Chapter. I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Tudhope and was given a hearty welcome by the officers and Companions. The Royal Arch degree was conferred on two candidates by Ex. Comp. Green and his officers in a very able manner. I again made a visit to this Chapter on December 11th, when the Installation of Officers took place, which was in charge of V. Ex. Comp. Fenton. The books of this Chapter are in splendid shape, also the finances, and much credit is due for this to Ex. Comp. McClelland, the Scribe E.

AMABEL CHAPTER, No. 131, WIARTON.—I visited this Chapter on September 30th and was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Foster. The First Principal was unable to be present and R. Ex. Comp. Cameron very ably filled the First Principal's Chair for the evening. There was no degree work as a number of the Companions in this Chapter are sailors and the work is mostly done in the winter months. Comp. Foster is an excellent officer and his books are in splendid shape.

MACPHERSON CHAPTER, No. 86, MEAFORD.—I visited this Chapter on the evening of October the 1st and was given a warm welcome by Ex. Comp. Topp and his officers, who conferred the Royal Arch degree on two candidates in a faultless

manner. This Chapter is making steady progress and is fortunate in having a number of Past Zs., who take a deep interest in the work of the Chapter. My predecessor in office, R. Ex. Comp. Bright, introduced me on my visits to this Chapter.

GEORGIAN CHAPTER, No. 56, OWEN SOUND.—I made my visit to this Chapter on October 2nd, and was given a good reception by the officers and Companions. As there were no candidates for degrees, the Chapter closed early and a pleasant time was spent in the reception room, followed by a luncheon. The books of the Scribe E. are in good condition.

MANITOU CHAPTER, No. 27, COLLINGWOOD.—I made my official visit to this Chapter on the evening of October 15th, and was given a hearty welcome. Ex. Comp. McCall and his officers conferred the Mark Master Mason degree on two candidates which was done in a splendid manner. R. Ex. Comp. Whipps, the Scribe E., is a very efficient officer, and his books are kept well. This Chapter is fortunate in having several Past Zs. who take a deep interest in the welfare of the Chapter.

SIGNET CHAPTER, No. 34, BARRIE.—On the evening of October 16th, I made my official visit to Signet Chapter. I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Cowan, who is one of the "stalwarts" in the Royal Craft. I was given a warm reception by the officers and Companions. The Royal Arch degree was conferred upon ten candidates, and the work was as near perfection as possible. This Chapter is to be congratulated on the splendid progress it has made during the year. Ex. Comp. Stewart, the First Principal, is a very efficient officer and he is supported by several good Past Zs. R. Ex. Comp. Merrick, the Scribe E., also makes an excellent officer, and his books are in good condition.

GRAND RIVER CHAPTER, No. 70, BRACEBRIDGE.—I visited my mother Chapter on Friday, October 30th, when the officers conferred the Royal Arch degree

on four candidates, which was done in a very able manner by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. McKay, and his officers. I also attended most of the meetings during the year, and assisted in the Installation of the officers on December 7th, which was in charge of Ex. Comp. Johnson. The books of this Chapter are well kept.

KICHIKEWANA CHAPTER, No. 167, MIDLAND.—My last official visit was made to the above Chapter on November 27th. The officers exemplified the Mark Master Mason degree on one of the Companions, as the candidate could not attend. The work was well done by the officers of the Chapter. Ex. Comp. Thompson, the First Principal, is an efficient officer. The election of officers was also held at this meeting. Ex. Comp. Keefe, Scribe E., keeps his books in splendid shape.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Companions of Georgian District for the honour conferred on me at the last Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, when they elected me Grand Superintendent of the District.

I also wish to thank the Companions of the Chapters for the loyal support and hearty welcome they have accorded me.

Fraternally yours,

J. T. ANDREWS,

Grand Supt. Georgian District, No. 9.

Bracebridge, Ont.

ONTARIO DISTRICT, No. 10.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit for consideration the report of this District for the past Masonic year.

Before doing so, I wish to thank the representatives of the various Chapters in the District for the high honour they conferred upon me, when they recommended me to the Grand First Principal for the important position of Grand Superintendent in this District, and the Most Excellent the Grand Z. for confirming the recommendation.

It has been a season of pleasure and profit to me, and if the Companions of the various Chapters have enjoyed my company as I have most assuredly enjoyed theirs, then I am happy indeed in having a host of new found friends.

Regarding the condition of Capitular Masonry in Ontario District, I am glad to report that it is in a most satisfactory condition. I have noticed that in all the Chapters there is a general uniformity of work done, and an impressiveness shown in the lectures and charges as delivered.

IONIC CHAPTER, No. 168, CAMPBELLFORD.—Following the established custom of my predecessors, I made my official visit to this Chapter on the 17th of March, this date being the anniversary of its institution. As this was my first visit to this Chapter, as well as my first official visit of my term, I naturally felt somewhat nervous, but the warmth of my reception banished all such feelings before I entered the Chapter room. The Royal Arch degree was conferred in a faultless manner in which the officers of Ionic Chapter always distinguish themselves. The work was in charge of R. Ex. Comp. E. J. Free, in the absence of Ex. Comp. Dr. F. de F. Free, First Principal, who was unavoidably detained through sickness. A social hour was spent in the banquet room after the Chapter closed, listening to speeches,

songs and stories, but the feature of the evening was an address on a "Trip to Ireland" by Comp. Elliott, of Belleville.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 35, WHITBY.—I visited this Chapter on April 17th, accompanied by twelve or fifteen Companions from Lindsay, when I witnessed the conferring of the Royal Arch degree in such a manner that no criticism was necessary. The officers of the Chapter know their business, and with such backing as from R. Ex. Comp. Van Valkenburgh, Ex. Comps. Jermyn, Erskine and others, the success of the Chapter is assured.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, No. 36, PETERBOROUGH.—I visited this Chapter accompanied by several Companions from Lindsay, on April 24th, and was severely reprimanded for being absent from the banquet, which was held at 6.30 o'clock by my dear friends of Peterborough, but which I had overlooked. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. R. H. Ross, the Third Principal, in a very creditable manner.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 48. COBOURG.—Accompanied by Ex. Comp. Warner, I visited this Chapter on April 28th, and was right royally received and entertained. The Royal Arch degree was worked for my benefit by Ex. Comp. Challis and his officers and it was exceedingly well done. Ex. Comp. Challis is ably supported by the Past Zs, who are most enthusiastic, and the District is fortunate in having this Chapter within its jurisdiction.

VICTORIA CHAPTER, No. 37, PORT HOPE.—I made my visit to this Chapter on May 8th, accompanied by an automobile load of Companions from Lindsay, and was treated to a real rendition of the Most Excellent Master Mason degree. The officers of the Chapter certainly have a perfect conception of this degree, and are to be congratulated upon the excellency of their work. After the degree was conferred,

a social hour was spent, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

PRESQUE ISLE CHAPTER, No. 144, BRIGHTON.—I attended this Chapter on May 19th, accompanied by a number of Companions from Lindsay and witnessed the Royal Arch degree. Considerable study and skill was apparent in the splendid manner in which the charges and lectures were given. This Chapter is well supported by the knowledge and experience of R. Ex. Comp. Rev. E. W. Pickford.

EXCELSIOR CHAPTER, No. 45, COLBORNE.—I visited this Chapter on June 2nd, when the Mark Master Mason degree was presented for my inspection, which was conferred in an excellent manner by the officers. The attendance was good, considering the distance some of the Companions have to drive, and the interest displayed by the Past Zs. is bound to make Royal Arch Masonry felt in this part of the Jurisdiction.

ST. ANDREW'S CHAPTER, No. 139, HAVELOCK.—I officially visited this Chapter on June 8th, and from the hearty greetings extended to myself and the accompanying Companions without, and the warm reception I received within the Chapter room, made me feel that I was indeed among a body of true Companions. The Royal Arch degree was conferred in the perfect manner for which the officers of this Chapter are noted. I had been told by my predecessor that I could look for splendid work from the Havelock Companions. A banquet was prepared before the Chapter opened which was well attended, after which speeches were called for from the several Companions, and they were interesting and beneficial to all.

KING DARIUS CHAPTER, No. 134, CANNINGTON.—I visited this Chapter on June 10th, and was indeed pleased to realize that this Chapter had put on new life. This Chapter was visited by R. Ex. Comp. Adair and the Lindsay Companions last year. We

had then a real heart to heart talk, and since that time King Darius has forged ahead making a record for itself in this District, and I am sure that R. Ex. Comp. Adair will be pleased to know that his efforts to revive this Chapter have met with such rich results. I witnessed the Mark Master Mason degree, which was conferred in a very creditable manner, after which we repaired to the dining room, where we were treated to a programme not surpassed in the largest centres. This Chapter, under the directorship of Ex. Comps. Blanchard and Bigg, is sure to succeed and prosper.

MIDLAND CHAPTER, No. 94, LINDSAY.—This being my home Chapter, I did not make any official visit, but arranged for an interesting evening for my Companions, in the conferring of the Royal Arch degree by the veterans of the District. The following Past Grand Officers, occupying the several offices in the Chapter: R. Ex. Comp. I. A. Humphries, Ionic Chapter, Campbellford, Z.; R. Ex. Comps. Adair and Cotton, Corinthian Chapter, Peterborough, as H. and J.; R. Ex. Comp. A. E. Henry, Pentalpha Chapter, Oshawa, S.E.; R. Ex. Comp. Van Valkenburgh, Keystone Chapter, Whitby, S.N.; R. Ex. Comp. E. J. Free, Ionic Chapter, Campbellford, P.S.; R. Ex. Comp. G. H. M. Baker, Midland Chapter, Lindsay, S.S.; R. Ex. Comp. W. A. Logan, Corinthian Chapter, Peterborough, J.S.; V. Ex. Comps. Sid Johnston, Midland Chapter, Lindsay; Wesley Stephens, Ionic Chapter, Campbellford, and R. Ex. Comp. O. S. Ormiston, Succoth Chapter, Uxbridge, as Veilsmen, and last, but not least, our own R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., as a visitor. At the conclusion of the degree, a banquet was served to over two hundred Companions, and a programme of music, songs and speeches was presented. The two outstanding events of this portion of the evening being the readings of Comp. McLeod, of Cannington, and the address by R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith. This event will long be remembered as a red letter one in Midland Chapter.

On June 24th, we held our annual picnic at Peterborough, when over five hundred Companions and their friends gathered at Nicholl's Oval. The Chapters of Cobourg, Warkworth, Whitby, Oshawa, Lindsay, Campbellford and Peterborough were represented. A civic welcome was given by Comp. J. J. Turner, Mayor of Peterborough, while Comp. Harold Young made the address of welcome on behalf of Corinthian Chapter. The honour fell to me to present R. Ex. Comp. A. E. Henry, of Oshawa, with the regalia of a Past Grand Superintendent. Short addresses were made by Ex. Comp. Yeats, of Port Hope, P. S. Ewing, of Warkworth, and Robert Groves of Lindsay. The long programme of sports was perfectly carried out, including a soft ball tournament which was won by the Peterborough Companions, which defeated Whitby in the finals. The presentation of the prizes and the shield for the tournament was made by Ex. Comp. Erskine of Whitby. This picnic has been an annual affair in this District for three years, and it is our intention to make it permanent.

PENTALPHA CHAPTER, No. 28, OSHAWA.—I made my official visit to this Chapter on October 6th, and after a very cordial reception, I witnessed the conferring of the Mark Master Mason degree by Ex. Comp. Stenhouse and his officers, done almost letter perfect, and which must have had a decided influence for good in the minds of the candidates. The interest and enthusiasm displayed augers well for its future success.

WARKWORTH CHAPTER, No. 110, WARKWORTH.—Accompanied by an automobile load of Companions, I visited this Chapter on October 6th and was warmly received by Ex. Comp. Ewing, Scribe E., and several Companions. The Companions of Warkworth certainly know the art of entertaining visitors and making them feel at home. We had a splendid time before the Chapter opened and after. It was a revelation to see the splendid manner in which

this small Chapter conferred the Royal Arch degree. Warkworth Chapter is to be congratulated upon the interest and enthusiasm of its members, not only in the work, but in the attendance, as many of the Companions have a long way to drive. A social hour was spent after the Chapter meeting, listening to speeches and songs. I bespeak for this Chapter a prosperous and successful future.

I found the Scribes E. throughout the District painstaking and thorough, their books being kept neat, clean and everything in accordance with the Constitution, and the Book of Marks much in evidence.

In conclusion, I wish to again thank the Companions for the honour which they conferred upon me in electing me to the office of Grand Superintendent, and also to thank the officers of the various Chapters for the generous and whole-hearted receptions accorded me on the occasion of my visits. Their companionable friendliness has been greatly appreciated, and will stand out predominantly as the red letter year of my Masonic experience.

I could not close this report without expressing also my thanks and appreciation to Ex. Comps. Groves, Nugent, Porter and Warner, and Comps. Lamb, Wansbrough, and Beall, who so kindly and willingly placed their cars and themselves at my service.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Fraternally yours,

CHARLES L. DAVIDSON,
Grand Supt. Ontario District, No. 10.

Lindsay, Ont.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 11.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Prince Edward District, No. 11.

Briefly, I desire at the same time to express my sincere appreciation of the high honour conferred on me by the Companions of the District, and to gratefully thank them for having done so.

I wish to assure the Most Excellent the Grand Z. and Grand Chapter, that I found on my official visits to the various Chapters that the true spirit of Capitular Masonry was known and practised, and the ritualistic ceremonies were in conformity with the prescribed forms and usages.

QUINTE FRIENDSHIP CHAPTER, No. 227, BELLEVILLE.—I visited this Chapter on October 13th and was introduced by Ex. Comp. J. O. Herity and received a royal welcome from Ex. Comp. H. J. Clarke, the First Principal. On accepting the Sceptre, I took the opportunity of expressing my thanks and appreciation for the honour conferred upon me at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter. This Chapter is in a very healthy condition and has excellent prospects for continued prosperity, judging from the good fellowship and harmony existing among the Companions. The books of the Chapter are neatly kept. The Scribe E., Ex. Comp. H. A. Thompson, is a very energetic and painstaking Officer and does his work well. The degree of Mark Master Mason was conferred upon Bro. Howard Asseltine in a dignified and impressive manner by the officers. I was particularly pleased to note that all except one officer were present, and that all were thoroughly conversant with their duties. After the Chapter closed, a pleasant hour was spent in the banquet hall, many Companions taking part. The music was furnished by the Eureka Orchestra.

PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, No. 31, PICTON.—I had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter on the evening of November 3rd, accompanied by Ex. Comp. H. J. Clarke, Ex. Comp. W. Cole, and Comp. H. A. Thompson, of Quinte Friendship Chapter, No. 227, and Ex. Comps. Wm. Cooke, W. A. Harden, Geo. Dulmage, and Comps. Ruston, Dilnut and Johnson of The Moira Chapter, No. 7. I was introduced by Ex. Comp. H. J. Clarke, of Quinte Friendship Chapter, No. 227, and warmly welcomed by Ex. Comp. Vicks, the First Principal. The officers for 1926 were elected, after which the Royal Arch degree was exemplified in a most creditable manner by the officers. The Scribe E., Ex. Comp. J. L. Graydon, is a very efficient officer and keeps his books carefully and well. This Chapter has a capable group of young members who all take a live interest in the work. The future for the Chapter looks very good indeed. After work in the Chapter room, a banquet was held, when many interesting addresses were heard.

MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, No. 44, NAPANEE.—I paid this Chapter my Official visit on November 4th, accompanied by several Companions from Belleville. I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Fennel and cordially welcomed by Ex. Comp. Taylor, the First Principal of the Chapter.

After the regular business had been transacted, the officers for 1926 were elected and judging from the calibre of the Companions elected, 1926 should be a banner year for Mount Sinai Chapter. Although no degree work was conferred, the business of the evening was conducted in such a manner as to leave no doubt as to the ability of the officers to render their work correctly. The Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. Walters, is very energetic and keeps his books well. The social side of Masonry was not neglected, and after a dainty lunch had been served, speeches and stories were given by many present. Through the courtesy of the Department of Agriculture, Comp. James Laughland exhibited some very inte-

resting motion pictures. This Chapter is in very good condition. The officers and Companions are very enthusiastic and I can see a continued era of prosperity for them.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 72, STIRLING.—I paid this Chapter an Official visit on November 16th, accompanied by several Companions from Belleville. I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Dr. J. McC. Potts and Ex. Comp. Dr. Walt, after which I was cordially received by Ex. Comp. G. D. Watson. Ex. Comp. Watson is a most efficient Officer, and in addition to the office of First Principal of the Chapter is W.M. of Stirling Blue Lodge. The degree of Mark Master Mason was exemplified in a splendid way by the officers. The books, under the care of R. Ex. Comp. Dr. J. McC. Potts are in excellent order and well kept. After the work of the Chapter was finished, the Companions retired to the banquet hall where a splendid repast was partaken of, after which several interesting speeches were heard. The famed hospitality of Keystone Chapter was much in evidence at the "Fourth Degree."

ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, No. 26, TRENTON.—On Tuesday, November 17th, I officially visited this Chapter and was introduced by M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer and R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Potts, and heartily welcomed by Ex. Comp. W. B. McClung, the First Principal. The warmth of the reception tendered me was most gratifying, the officers all being in their Chairs. The degree of the Holy Royal Arch was conferred in a becoming manner for a Chapter of this size and distinction. A very noticeable and pleasing feature of the visit was the number of Past Principals in attendance, which augers well for the future success of the Chapter. The books of the Scribe E. were in excellent order. This Chapter is prosperous and the officers enthusiastic. A very interesting and instructive address on "Canada" was given at the banquet by Ex. Comp. J. O. Herity, of Quinte Friendship Chapter, No. 227.

MADOC CHAPTER, No. 161, MADOC.—On December 1st, I officially visited this Chapter. I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Hill and received a cordial welcome from the First Principal, Ex. Comp. Smith. On this occasion the Mark Master Mason degree was conferred in a most impressive manner; showing that time had not been spared in its preparation. I would say, that the work as put on by this Chapter is as near perfect as it is possible to get it. The Scribe E., V. Ex. Comp. Wright, is a painstaking and efficient Officer. On this evening Madoc Chapter had the honour of entertaining Comp. Chas. W. O'Hara, who was celebrating his ninety-third birthday. Comp. O'Hara seems to be enjoying fair health and is very enthusiastic over Chapter affairs. This Chapter held the record for the District during 1924, having admitted forty-two members. There was a fare attendance on the occasion of my visit, and the prospects of Madoc Chapter are very bright. Their hospitality was highly enjoyable and could not be surpassed.

THE MOIRA CHAPTER, No. 7, BELLEVILLE.—On January 5th, 1926, I officially visited this, my mother Chapter. I was unable to visit this Chapter officially during last year, but I made many visits in a private way. I was introduced by Ex. Comps. Wm. Thompson and E. T. Cherry and cordially received by Ex. Comp. W. W. Anderson, the First Principal.

The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred in a very satisfactory manner by the newly Installed officers. I am pleased to say that The Moira Chapter, the oldest in the District, is showing renewed activity. The Scribe E., V. Ex. Comp. C. B. Scantlebury, is a very efficient Officer, and I found his books in excellent order. After the business of the evening had been concluded, Comp. Rev. F. E. Mallet gave a very interesting address. In the banquet hall a bountiful repast was partaken of, after which many splendid addresses were heard, interspersed with song.

In concluding my term of Office, as Grand Superintendent for Prince Edward District, No. 11, I take the opportunity of thanking the Companions of the District for their loyal support given me during my visits to their Chapters. A spirit of good fellowship had existed everywhere. It is with pleasure and pride that I noted the strength and growth of Capitular Masonry in Prince Edward District, No. 11.

Finally, I cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing my appreciation to my worthy District Secretary, Ex. Comp. Geo. Dulmage, of The Moira Chapter, No. 7, whose services have indeed been of great assistance to me.

"Companions be ye all of one mind, live in peace and may the God of Love delight to dwell with you and bless you for evermore."

Fraternally yours,

FRANK H. CHESTER,

Grand Supt. Prince Edward District, No. 11.

Belleville, Ont.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, No. 12.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

It is my pleasure to submit for your approval my report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry in the St. Lawrence District, No. 12, for the year 1925, and the work done by each Chapter I visited during my term of office.

I would express my sincere appreciation for the honour conferred upon me by my Companions, and the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, in my selection as Grand Superintendent of St. Lawrence District. Each Chapter in the District has been visited by me, and some Chapters twice and three times.

On three of my official visits I was honoured by the presence of the late V. Ex. Comp. Richard Bunt, of Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter, No. 1, one of our Chapter's oldest Companions, one dearly beloved by everyone and honoured by his mother Chapter and Grand Chapter. I shall never forget my first visit to my mother Chapter, when V. Ex. Comp. Richard Hunt introduced me, making a very impressive speech, full of vim and zeal, his wonderful powers made an impression on all the Companions present, and his work in my mother Chapter will live for many years as one of the great cope stones in Capitular Masonry.

I am pleased to report that the District was honoured at a Chapter of Instruction by the visit of R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E. of the Grand Chapter of Canada. The Companions were held spell-bound when this historian unravelled the mysteries of Royal Arch Masonry. Our only regrets were his lecture was cut short, owing to train connections at Brockville. The Companions of the five Chapters who were present on that occasion, expressed their thanks to me afterwards for the Chapter of Instruction and the benefit they

received from our Grand Scribe E.'s instructive address.

ANCIENT FRONTENAC AND CATARAQUI CHAPTER, No. 1, KINGSTON.—I had, on March 20th, the pleasure of visiting Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter, No. 1, and was presented to the Chapter by V. Ex. Comp. Richard Bunt and R. Ex. Comp. W. Y. Mills. My mother Chapter gave me a most cordial welcome, which is characteristic of that ancient Chapter. I had the pleasure of seeing the Holy Royal Arch degree conferred by Ex. Comp. Chatterton and the officers of the Chapter. The work was exceptionally well done on this occasion, and it was a credit to the Chapter. After conferring the degree, I was entertained in the banquet room, where I instructed the Companions as to their co-operation with the Principals in carrying out the moral teachings laid down by the Grand Chapter. The Chapter is in good condition with a present membership of 391, and the prospects for the ensuing year are bright for the Chapter.

GRENVILLE CHAPTER, No. 22, PRESCOTT.—On May 12th, I officially visited this Chapter and, after being officially received, was surprised and greatly pleased by the work of Ex. Comp. Moore and the officers of Grenville Chapter. In conferring the Holy Royal Arch degree great skill was shown by all who took part. Great interest was apparent by all Companions. This Chapter is making rapid strides for the good of Capitular Masonry. The work of Grenville Chapter was one of the best in my visits throughout the District. A social hour was spent after the degree work was over, and good advice was given by some of the Excellent Companions from the outside Districts.

SUSSEX CHAPTER, No. 59, and ST. LAWRENCE CHAPTER, No. 100, BROCKVILLE.—Sussex Chapter, No. 59, and Lawrence Chapter, No. 100, held a joint meeting for my official visit on May 13th. I was

accompanied on this occasion by V. Ex. Comp. Richard Bunt. A large number attended the meeting in the Masonic Memorial Temple. The Holy Royal Arch degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. Sheridan, Ex. Comp. Hansen and the officers and Past Principals of the two Chapters. These two Chapters have always been noted for their excellent work and the degree was conferred in a most excellent manner. Both Chapters are to be congratulated upon the excellent work of their officers. The books of the Scribes E. are well kept, and the requirements of the Mark Books adhered to. The Chapter being closed, a banquet was served at which Companion Hansen presided as toastmaster. V. Ex. Comp. Bunt gave a stirring address on Capitular Masonry to the Companions. A prosperous future is assured for Capitular Masonry in Brockville.

COVENANT CHAPTER, No. 133, CORNWALL.—My official visit to this Chapter was made on May 20th, and from the time of my arrival until I took my departure I was right royally entertained. I had a hearty reception in the afternoon at Covenant Chapter "Field Day," in which the Mark Master Mason degree was exemplified on 15 candidates. At 5.30 p.m., the Most Excellent Master Mason degree was conferred by the Past Principals of the Chapter. At 6.30 a banquet was held in the banquet room and Ex. Comp. Shaver was toastmaster. At 7.30 p.m., the Holy Royal Arch degree was conferred by officers of this Chapter in a most impressive manner, and the Mystical Lecture given by R. Ex. Comp. C. J. Hamilton being especially well rendered.

A noteworthy feature was the great interest manifested by the officers and members who reside in Wales, 12 miles away, and who travel in all kinds of weather to be at the meetings. The books in the hands of our esteemed Comp., John Ridley, are a credit to the Chapter.

LEEDS CHAPTER, No 132, GANANOQUE.—On June 3rd, I visited Leeds Chapter and am sorry to report

to you that there were only six Companions present and one Companion to receive the Holy Royal Arch degree. The work I did see was not well done on this occasion, and after instructing the Companions present, I promised to officially visit them in the fall. I received word from the Scribe E. on two occasions, cancelling the engagements. Consequently I did not see any of the work in the three degrees conferred by this Chapter.

MAITLAND CHAPTER, No. 68, NORTH AUGUSTA.—On September 7th, I visited this Chapter in company with Ex. Comp. Brunkie. We received a royal welcome by six Companions and the Excellent Z. Unfortunately there was no degree work done. The Companions can open and close the Chapter in the three degrees, and Ex. Comp. Hill can confer all the degrees. I instructed the Companions in the Mark and Most Excellent Master Mason and Royal Arch degrees. They expressed their appreciation for the valuable instruction and secret work given on that occasion. Ex. Comp. Bobier has an excellent set of books.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 112, MORRISBURG.—On June 19th, I officially visited St. John's Chapter, accompanied by Comp. G. L. Van Horn of my mother Chapter. There was a large number present and the degree was impressively conferred by the officers of this Chapter. I would especially mention the work of Comp. D. Fink, Principal Sojourner. Without exception, I would say that this Companion of 80 years of age did the best work I have seen. This Companion performed the same work at the Chapter of Instruction at Morrisburg on November 27th. Ex. Comp. Henderson, who occupied the Chair as Excellent Z., in the absence of Ex. Comp. Gillespie, who was ill at the time, deserves a great deal of credit for stepping in at the last moment and so ably filling this exalted position.

I wish to express my thanks to the Excellent Companions of St. John's Chapter for recommend-

ing and supporting me to such a high and honourable office in Grand Chapter. R. Ex. Comp. Davy as well as R. Ex. Comps. Marsh, Gorrell and Henderson, are the stalwarts in Capitular Masonry in Morrisburg.

On October 27th a Chapter of Instruction was held in Brockville, the following Chapters taking part: Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, of Kingston; Leeds, of Gananoque, and Sussex and St. Lawrence Chapters of Brockville; also Maitland, of North Augusta.

On November 27th a Chapter of Instruction was held in Morrisburg, with St. John's Chapter, Morrisburg; Grenville Chapter, Prescott; Covenant Chapter, Cornwall, taking part. This Chapter of Instruction held in Morrisburg was one of the best held in the District in years. There were over 100 Companions present on that occasion, which demonstrate the fact that Chapters of Instruction are valuable to the Companions.

In Brockville we had over 350 present for instruction at the conferring of the Holy Royal Arch degree. At both of these Chapters of Instruction the Companions expressed their thanks and appreciation for the work laid down by Grand Chapter, and also for the visit of R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E.

In conclusion, I wish to thank again the Companions of St. Lawrence District for the honour they conferred upon me in electing me as their Grand Superintendent. I also wish to express my appreciation to all the officers and Companions of every Chapter on the occasion of my visits, and I sincerely wish the greatest prosperity in the future for St. Lawrence District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HARVEY J. MILNE,

Grand Supt. St. Lawrence District, No. 12.

Kingston, Ont.

OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this District.

First, I would like to express to the Companions my deep appreciation for the honour they conferred when they submitted my name to the Grand Z. for the high and important office of Grand Superintendent of this District.

It has been a season, I can truthfully say, fruitful in every respect to myself, and one which I shall forever hold in the kindest memory. I sincerely trust that my visits with the Companions of the several Chapters may have resulted in some assistance, and in cementing and extending friendships which time only will sever.

On my first visits to the various constituent Chapters in this District, I found that the greatest good fellowship and harmony prevailed, and the splendid social feeling observed amongst the Companions in general was most pleasing and worthy of commendation. With such a spirit prevailing in every Chapter, there can be no doubt of the steady future advancement of Capitular Masonry in our Jurisdiction.

GRANITE CHAPTER, No. 61, ALMONTE.—I officially visited this Chapter on April 9th. I was met at the train by Ex. Comp. McFarlane, First Principal, and was made to feel that my duty as inspecting officer was to be a pleasure as well as a duty. I was introduced by V. Ex. Comp. Pollock in a most cordial manner, and was loyally and cordially received by Ex. Comp. McFarlane, the First Principal, expressing the loyalty of the Chapter to the Grand Chapter of Canada, and a warm welcome to myself. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. McFarlane and his officers on a real candidate, the first in several years that this Chapter has had, and the work was well done, being impres-

sive, accurate and with the solemnity which makes of this degree, when given in such a manner, one not likely to be forgotten by the candidate or Companions. The candidate was also examined as to his proficiency in the Most Excellent Master Mason degree. The inspection of the books of the Chapter revealed the fact that the records were in keeping with the instructions, except the Book of Marks, and I was assured that this would be brought up to date.

BONNECHERE CHAPTER, NO. 114, RENFREW.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on April 20th, accompanied by Ex. Comp. Stewart Witten and Comp. Lorne Young, of Carleton Chapter, Ottawa, and Ex. Comp. John J. Gardiner, Second Principal of St. Francis Chapter, Smith's Falls. We were met at the station by Ex. Comp. Loken, Ex. First Principal of the Chapter, and after being motored around town was taken to the hotel for dinner, after which we visited the Chapter, and I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. David Barr (since deceased), who was then the oldest living Past Grand Superintendent of this District. I received a hearty welcome from the First Principal, Ex. Comp. Loken. The degree of the Holy Royal Arch was conferred by the officers and was most impressive, and carried conviction that the officers of this Chapter are efficient and capable of maintaining the highest standard of the Royal Craft. I expected good work and was not disappointed. The books of this Chapter, as well as the finances, are in a sound and healthy condition. I was pleased to see so many Past Principals present, including Ex. Comps. A. S. Wade, John Conley, David Barr, W. A. McKay, Harry Cox, and others.

PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, NO. 226, PERTH.—I officially visited this Chapter on May 18th, and through the kindness of Ex. Comps. Thornton and Page was taken for a motor drive through the town and many beautiful spots of the surrounding

District. I was introduced by Ex. Comp. Thornton and received a warm welcome from Ex. Comp. J. A. Hope, First Principal, expressing the loyalty of himself, his officers and Companions, to the Most Excellent the Grand Z. and Grand Chapter of Canada. The Royal Arch degree was conferred for my inspection in a very satisfactory manner as to dignity, clearness and impressiveness. The books are exceedingly well and carefully kept by the Scribe E. The finances are in excellent condition and the Chapter has every promise of continued success. Being the youngest Chapter in the District, it has made good progress, and with the present officers should render a good account of its work during the coming year.

KITCHENER CHAPTER, No. 210, RUSSELL.—I visited this Chapter on June 5th, and through the kindness of Comp. John Huckell, of Carleton Chapter, who motored me to Russell on a very hot summer evening, we were able to travel in comfort, and I can assure you the welcome I received, as representative of the Grand First Principal, leaves no doubt of the loyalty which this Chapter owes to the Grand Chapter of Canada. I was also accompanied by Ex. Comp. Geo. Powers and Comps. Hannable and McCreery, of Carleton Chapter.

As I was present at the formation of this Chapter, and conducted many of its original members through the several degrees, I was no stranger to them. After being received in the Royal Arch degree, and being extended a warm welcome, the business of the evening was transacted, the Chapter closed, and a Lodge of Mark Master Masons opened, and the Mark Master Mason degree conferred for my inspection by Ex. Comp. Bigelow and his officers in a very creditable manner, after which a candidate was examined as to his proficiency in the Mark degree, which proved very satisfactory. The books and records are neatly and accurately kept by Comp. Andrew Walker, Scribe E., and the finances are in

good condition. After the Chapter closed, we spent a very pleasant hour at the festive board.

MAPLE CHAPTER, No. 116, CARLETON PLACE.—On the evening of October 2nd, I visited this Chapter, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. Alex. Grant, Ex. Comps. Stewart Witten, Geo. Powers, A. C. Brown and Comps. Fred G. Smith and P. C. Stevenson, of Carleton Chapter. Being introduced by R. Ex. Comp. McIntosh, I was cordially welcomed by Ex. Comp. A. McFadden. The business of the evening was transacted, and a Lodge of Mark Master Masons opened and the Mark degree conferred in a very creditable manner. The Chapter is full of enthusiasm and eager in every way to advance the interests of the Royal Craft. On inspection of the books of the Chapter, I am very pleased to report that records are clear, and up to the requirements. The finances are in a sound and healthy state. This Chapter is to be congratulated on having R. Ex. Comp. McIntosh as Scribe E., as he is always on hand to give kindly advice and has rendered faithful service to the Royal Craft in this District. After the ceremony, on adjournment to the banquet room, addresses were given and a social hour spent around the festive board.

ST. FRANCIS CHAPTER, No. 133, SMITH'S FALLS.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter, accompanied by Comp. Fred G. Smith, of Carleton Chapter, on October 16th. After a hearty introduction by my immediate predecessor, R. Ex. Comp. H. W. Auger, and V. Ex. Comp. W. H. Wilson, I was warmly and courteously received by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. Simpson Orr and a large turnout of members and visitors. The work presented was the Holy Royal Arch. It was conferred in a manner and with the dignity befitting this Supreme Degree, impressing the candidates and visitors alike with the solemnity and importance of Royal Arch Masonry. This Chapter is to be complimented on the efficient manner in which its records are kept and

the finances administered, being a credit to the present Scribe E., Comp. G. W. Falker. I cannot pass without making special mention of the work of Ex. Comp. Gardiner, Second Principal, and I feel sure that now he has been installed as Z., the Chapter will make good progress under his guidance. I wish to mention that the Principal Sojourner being absent, his office was filled by Ex. Comp. McGregor without any previous notice, and he rendered work of a high order, although he had not occupied this chair for over twelve years. After the closing of the Chapter, we retired to the banquet room, where we were entertained at the "Fourth Degree" by a splendid programme of speeches and musical talent, which was apparently enjoyed by all. This Chapter is well established and progressive, and of its future I can conceive no doubt.

OTTAWA CHAPTER, No. 222, OTTAWA.—On October 19th, I officially visited this Chapter, accompanied by Ex. Comp. Geo. Powers, First Principal of Carleton Chapter. I was introduced in a happy manner by R. Ex. Comp. Dr. D. A. Clark, Past Grand Superintendent of Toronto District, No. 8, and most cordially received by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. M. E. Rouse. There was a good turnout of members and the work of the evening was the Mark Master Mason degree, which was well rendered, every officer giving strict observance to his part of the work. The First Principal occupied the Chair and suffered from nervousness which made it hard for him to follow the work closely. The work of the Principal Sojourner, Comp. Jackson, is worthy of special mention. After the completion of the Degree Ex. Comp. Howie examined a candidate in the Mark Master Mason degree, which was done in a pleasing and efficient manner. On inspection of the books of the Chapter, I am pleased to report that the records are well and accurately kept and the finances in good condition. While this Chapter is not large numerically, being one of the younger Chapters of the Jurisdiction, any lack of

members is fully made up in the zeal and regular attendance of its members, and my belief is that this Chapter will continue to make steady progress. After the ceremony, we retired to the banquet hall, where we were entertained by a beautiful programme which apparently was enjoyed.

I again had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter on November 16th, when the Chapter was celebrating its fifth anniversary, and the original officers filled the Chairs and conferred the Holy Royal Arch degree, the rendition of which was a profit and pleasure to all. The Mystical Lecture was impressively given by R. Ex. Comp. Dr. D. A. Clark, after which a pleasant hour was spent around the festive board.

CARLETON CHAPTER, NO. 16, OTTAWA.—I visited this Chapter every month, as it is my mother Chapter, and witnessed all the degrees worked. This old Chapter has alwaye been noted for its good work. At the regular meeting, on March 20th, I had the honour of being invested with the regalia of my office as Grand Superintendent of Ottawa District, No. 13. The investiture was made by R. Ex. Comp. Simpson, and I shall always remember with great pleasure and satisfaction the kindly words spoken to me on that occasion.

On October 21st, I paid my official visit to this Chapter and was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. W. H. G. Garrioch, and was accorded a very warm welcome by the First Principal, Ex. Comp. Geo. Powers, in a courteous and delightful manner, expressive of the cordiality which this Chapter extends to all representatives of Grand Chapter, and to all visitors generally. The work presented for the evening was the Mark Master Mason degree and each officer endeavoured to excell the other in his rendition of his part of this beautiful degree in Masonry. After the degree was conferred, the First Principal called upon Ex. Comp. Stewart Witten to examine a candidate in the Mark degree, and the prepared candidate not being present Comp. Lorne

Young acted as substitute and answered all questions accurately and promptly. I have witnessed all degrees worked in this old Chapter, and must congratulate all the officers for the true spirit which they show in all things pertaining to the Royal Craft.

On December 17th, 1925, I was invited to attend and install and invest the officers for the ensuing year, after which I was called upon to present Ex. Comp. Geo. Powers with a Past First Principal's jewel as a mark of esteem in which he was held and for the faithful service he had rendered to the Chapter. The Chapter is to be congratulated on their very able Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. A. W. Grant, whose records, books and finances are kept in such good order and condition. Congratulations are surely due to those who have so earnestly and faithfully laboured in the interests of this Chapter since its institution, and I have every reason to believe that with the present staff of officers, this Chapter will render a good account and show faithful service during the coming year.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, NO. 148, VANKLEEK HILL.—I visited this Chapter on November 6th. I was accompanied by Ex. Comp. Geo. Powers, and owing to the First Principal being confined to his bed with sickness, and the Third Principal absent on an inquest, they were hard pressed for officers. V. Ex. Comp. Elvidge occupied the Chair of First Principal, and gave me a warm welcome as representative of the Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada; he expressed regret at the absence of the two Principals. There being no degree work at this Convocation, I was present at the opening and closing of the Chapter, which was well done, after which we spent a social hour at the festive board. The books of the Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. McRae, are well kept, and to him I again wish to tender my sincere thanks for meeting me at the station with his car, and afterwards driving me back to catch the midnight train.

LAURENTIAN CHAPTER, No. 151, PEMBROKE.—On November 19th, I paid my official visit to this Chapter. My reception was of such a cordial nature that I could not but feel my official duties would be light. I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. Sparling and was cordially received by Ex. Comp. C. A. Bailey, I.P.Z., who was acting in the absence of the First Principal.

The work of the evening was the Most Excellent Maser Mason degree, with Comps. C. A. Bailey as W.M., Walter Ross as S.W., and L. H. Logan as J.W. The work was well done and in keeping with the high standard throughout the District. I examined the books of the Chapter and found them exceptionally well kept under the care of Comp. W. H. Gibson, who is a most painstaking Scribe E.

GLENGARRY CHAPTER, No. 143, MAXVILLE.—On May 22nd, I visited this Chapter, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. A. W. Grant and Ex. Comp. Geo. Powers, but as the evening was wet and stormy and a very poor attendance, I promised to visit later in the fall and make my inspection. This I did on November 27th, and found that the First and Third Principals were absent. I received a very courteous and hearty reception. No work was presented for inspection here, but fraternal intercourse and instruction helped to encourage those present and stimulate their ambition to put forth every effort to make better progress. The election of officers was carried out on this occasion and R. Ex. Comp. J. Howard Munro was elected as First Principal, and I have great hopes that this Chapter will make a record showing during the coming year under his guidance and instructions.

As to the books, they are well and ably kept, but a large amount of dues are in arrears for a small Chapter. This feature I strongly urged them to have corrected, and I am confident that the new Z., with the assistance of the Scribe E., will see to it that the dues are collected. I believe the prospects for candidates are very good, and in a short time this Chapter should be in very good shape.

A Chapter of Instruction was held at Ottawa on November 25th. This being the first Chapter of Instruction held in this District for a number of years. It was much enjoyed by the Companions who attended, and I have had several requests to try and make it an annual event and assess each Chapter with a portion of the expenses.

At 2 o'clock p.m. the Mark Master Mason degree was worked by the Second Principals of the District, the junior Chapter but one taking the highest offices, and so on according to seniority upwards. The work was done in an exemplary manner by all officers, after which there was a full discussion on the work.

At 4 o'clock p.m. the Most Excellent Master Mason degree was exemplified. This degree was to be exemplified by the officers of the youngest Chapter in the District, and for that reason were not asked to participate in the Mark degree, but owing to unavoidable circumstances they were not able to be present in full force, the only representative being present was the Second Principal, Ex. Comp. Rubenstein, and he occupied the Chair, and I filled the various offices by members of the other Chapters. The work was well done, and various questions were asked about things which were not quite clear to many of the Companions.

At 5.30 o'clock p.m. the Lodge was closed, and at 6 o'clock p.m. we adjourned to the banquet hall of the Masonic Temple, where a sumptuous repast was served to the Companions, followed by speeches and a very interesting musical program, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

At 8 o'clock p.m. the regular officers of Carleton Chapter opened in the Holy Royal Arch degree and received M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer, Immediate Past Grand Z.; R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, the Grand Scribe E., and myself, and after Grand Honours were given the Chairs were vacated and filled by the First Principals of the District, the senior Chapter taking the Z.'s Chair, and so on down according to seniority.

The rendition of the Holy Royal Arch degree as exemplified by these officers was done in a manner which was impressive, accurate and with the solemnity which makes of this degree when given in such a manner one not likely to be forgotten by candidates or Companions. This was the most profitable part of the day, as R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., explained the signs as well as several portions of the work, and M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer gave the Companions the benefit of his past experience and knowledge of this degree.

Questions on the work were asked by a large number of Companions and satisfactory answers given. This brought a very successful day to a close, and I wish here to express my sincere thanks to Carleton Chapter for the excellent arrangements made by their Third Principal, Ex. Comp. A. C. Brown, and for Carleton Chapter bearing the entire cost of the day.

At the expiration of my term of office, it is gratifying to be able to report the excellence of the work performed by the several Chapters of the District, and the real enthusiasm of all the Companions for the continued progress of Royal Arch Masonry. In completing my duties of office as Superintendent of District No. 13, I hope not readily to forget the many friendships which I have formed, and the many kind attentions extended to me through the past year.

In conclusion, I wish to particularly express my gratitude to R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., for counsel and assistance; the Past Grand Superintendents, and other Excellent Companions who gave generously of their time and talents to assist me on various occasions in the duties of this office.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

JOHN GRAY,

Grand Supt. Ottawa District, No. 13.
Ottawa, Ont.

ALGOMA DISTRICT, No. 14.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Algoma District, No. 14, for the year 1925.

First, permit me to express my sincere thanks and deep appreciation for the honour conferred upon me by the Companions of Algoma District, also the Grand First Principal for ratifying their choice. My term of office as Grand Superintendent has reaped me pleasure, and I shall always remember the acts of kindness and good fellowship which have been extended me in my visits to the individual Chapters.

SHUNIAH CHAPTER, No. 82, PORT ARTHUR.—On April 29th, I made my first official visit, accompanied by Ex. Comp. R. Jamieson and Comp. T. Love, of Fort William Chapter. Shuniah Chapter arranged a special session, when a large number of candidates from Schrieber and Hornepayne were initiated. At 6.30 o'clock p.m. we were taken to the Prince Arthur Hotel where a banquet had been arranged in my honour. Following the banquet, we returned to the Temple. Here I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. S. W. Ray and R. Ex. Comp. A. M. Frank and most cordially received. The degree of the Holy Royal Arch was conferred, the ritualistic rendering of which left nothing to be desired. I examined the books of the Scribe E. and found V. Ex. Comp. T. J. C. Rodden a very exemplary Scribe. The books of the Treasurer, too, were well kept. The future prospects of Shuniah Chapter are bright. I have also visited this Chapter twice on other occasions when the degrees were conferred in the usual able manner.

I must thank the members of Shuniah Chapter for the honour they gave me by asking me to assist

in officiating at their Installation on December 8th. This indeed was an honour.

FORT WILLIAM CHAPTER, No. 140, FORT WILLIAM.—I have attended all the meetings of Fort William Chapter, but on Friday, June 19th, I made my official visit. I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. A. D. Cameron, and R. Ex. Comp. A. M. Frank, and received most graciously by Ex. Comp. John Bell. This being my own Chapter, and having seen the preliminary degrees conferred I expected to see some good work put on nor was I disappointed, for after having witnessed the conferring of the Holy Royal Arch degree I must say that each officer in his place was splendid and the ceremony impressive. I inspected the books of the Chapter and found them a model of accuracy and a credit to Scribe E. Comp. H. Faulkner, and R. Ex. Comp. A. A. Cameron as Treasurer. After the ceremony a "Fourth Degree" was held, where all enjoyed themselves listening to speeches and songs.

ATWOOD CHAPTER, No. 149, RAINY RIVER.—On Thursday, June 25th, I visited Rainy River. R. Ex. Comp. H. G. C. Ledger and Ex. Comp. McBane met me at the train and took me for a delightful tour by auto to most of the beauty spots of that scenic district. It was indeed a great pleasure to me as I had not been in that territory before. I must thank R. Ex. Comp. H. G. C. Ledger for his generous hospitality, for he treated me most royally. In the evening, I officially visited Atwood Chapter, No. 149. Introduced by R. Ex. Comp. H. G. C. Ledger and R. Ex. Comp. H. G. Gordon and received by Ex. Comp. L. Nap. LaPointe. I witnessed the conferring of the Royal Arch degree and must compliment the officers, especially Ex. Comp. L. D. Hickey in his part, for the work was remarkably well done. I reviewed the books of the Chapter and must compliment Ex. Comp. H. G. C. Ledger as an efficient Scribe E., one that Atwood Chapter can be justly proud. After the meeting, refreshments were

in order and all enjoyed themselves, closing with "Auld Lang Syne."

ALBERTON CHAPTER, No. 152, FORT FRANCES.—On Friday, June 26th, I visited Fort Frances, where I was well received by several of the Companions of Alberton Chapter. I was conducted around the town and visited all the prominent buildings and industries. In all I spent a very pleasant day. In the evening I visited Alberton Chapter, No. 152. Introduced by R. Ex. Comp. D. G. Gillon and R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Clark I was received most cordially. I witnessed the conferring of the Holy Royal Arch degree, and I may state that the officers of Alberton Chapter will have to travel far to find their equal, the work being exceedingly well done. The prospects of this Chapter are very good indeed. They have a splendid room, everything practically new. Ex. Comp. W. W. Wees told me they were getting twelve new banners which would complete the furnishings. I inspected the books of the Chapter and found them in first class order. No dues outstanding—a credit to Comp. J. R. Angus, Scribe E., who in himself is an asset to Alberton Chapter. R. Ex. Comp. W. J. Clark also had a very creditable Treasurer's Book. Following business we retired to the banquet hall, where refreshments, speeches and singing were enjoyed.

GOLDEN CHAPTER, No. 90, KENORA.—On July 10th, I visited Kenora. V. Ex. Comp. Galloway and Ex. Comp. N. B. Jones met me at the station and took me on a long motor trip around the beauty spots of Kenora. In the evening I was introduced by R. Ex. Comp. W. Whittaker and V. Ex. Comp. H. S. Galloway and received by Ex. Comp. N. B. Jones. Golden Chapter accorded me a hearty welcome. The regular business was completed and the Chapter closed and then opened in the Most Excellent Master Mason degree for my benefit. The officers did their work extremely well. Comp. H. H. Tate is an able Scribe E., his books being in order and a credit to his Chapter.

On July 11th officers of Golden Chapter had a surprise for me. They came to the hotel and took me down to the lake where motor boats were waiting to take us around the Lake of the Woods. After lunch we returned and I was taken by auto to Kewatin and there met R. Ex. Comp. F. J. Cherry. I must thank Golden Chapter for the most gracious way they entertained me.

In concluding my report I wish to again thank all the Companions of Algoma District, No. 14, for the honour they conferred upon me, and I ask all Companions to accept my deep appreciation for the many courtesies extended. My year of office has indeed been a pleasant one to me and, I trust, of some benefit to my District.

Fraternally submitted,

OLIVER COLES,
Grand Supt. Algoma District, No. 14.

Fort William, Ont.

NEW ONTARIO DISTRICT, No. 15.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in New Ontario District, No. 15, for the year 1925.

My first duty is to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for the honour conferred upon me in my election as Grand Superintendent of this District. During my term I have not been unmindful of the dignity and honour of the position; have been conscious at all times of my own shortcomings and limitations, and I have ever had as a source of inspiration the achievements of my predecessors before me, and to them I gratefully express my thanks.

To R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, our Grand Scribe E., I pay my respects for his kind counsel and advice so cheerfully given at all times. I appointed Ex. Comp. H. E. Ruwald as District Secretary, and I am grateful for his kindness and very efficient services so faithfully rendered at all times.

My private avocation prevented me from visiting the following Chapters:—

Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, Mattawa.

St. John's Chapter, No. 103, North Bay.

Temiskaming Chapter, No. 169, New Liskeard.

VISIT OF THE GRAND Z. AND GRAND
SCRIBE E.

The northern part of this District was favoured with a visit last June from the M. Ex. the Grand Z. and the Grand Scribe E. Official visits were made to the Chapters at Cochrane, Iroquois Falls and Timmins; at each place very large and interesting meetings were held, and M. Ex. Comp. W. H. Davis and R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith delivered very inspiring addresses.

PEMBROKE CHAPTER, No. 58, MATTAWA.—While not having the opportunity of visiting this Chapter, I am personally acquainted with its history, and while the Chapter has been more or less dormant in the matter of receiving candidates, the officers have been meeting fairly regular and keeping up their interest in the Royal Craft. Their territory is limited, and I would recommend that in future candidates, whose residence is Temiskaming, should not be allowed to join other Chapters outside the jurisdiction of Pembroke Chapter. If my notice of motion to divide this District is adopted by Grand Chapter, future Grand Superintendents will be in a better position to give their needed support to the officers of this Chapter.

TUSCAN CHAPTER, No. 95, SUDBURY.—R. Ex. Comp. Wm. McDonald reports for me the following: “In response to your telegram of request to act for you, I paid an official visit to Tuscan Chapter, No. 95, as your proxy, accompanied by V. Ex. Comp. Geo. H. Davidson, Grand Steward of the Grand Chapter of Canada for this year.

“We witnessed the opening of the Chapter and the conduct of the regular business of the evening by Ex. Comp. Stull and his officers, and can assure you that the same was performed with smoothness, dignity and despatch, as the result of experience acquired during the year.

“Retiring for a breathing spell, your representatives were then received with due honours as the representatives of yourself and the Grand Chapter, whereupon it fell to our lot to install and invest the officers elected and appointed for the ensuing twelve months. Which was done—and modesty does not permit me to say anything about this ceremony, save to tell you that the Scribe E., Ex. Comp. J. A. Orr, was instructed by the Chapter to write and tell you all about it.

“Tuscan Chapter expressed sincere regrets that we were not to have the privilege of an official visit

from you, and asked me to convey to you their regrets.

"No official address was given—the notice was too short—but the newly installed Principals were given some private instructions with regard to the correct terms of the Secret Work of the Order.

"In the 'Fourth Degree' which followed, the customary toast was drunk to Grand Chapter, with felicitous introductions and responses, everybody being in a happy mood on the occasion.

"We find Tuscan Chapter in a continued state of prosperity and harmony. The Chapter records, books and returns are attended to in first-class shape by the Scribe E. A normal increase in membership gave ample room for good work by the officers of last year, and the incoming force are well qualified to carry on the same good work in the coming year. In a word, 'All's well with Tuscan.'

"We are heartily in accord with your notice of motion to divide the District, not that we are anxious to separate from the Companions of the north, but because of the travel and the expense involved in the present connection."

ALGONQUIN CHAPTER, No. 102, SAULT STE. MARIE.—Having to cancel my visit to this Chapter, R. Ex. Comp. R. Y. Angus, of North Bay, was good enough to represent me, and he reports as follows:

"Complying with your request, I visited the Soo on Friday last and installed the officers of Algonquin Chapter, No. 102.

"I was met at the station by Ex. Comp. Johnston, Scribe E., and other members of the Chapter. R. Ex. Comp. Cowie escorted me to the Temple. There was a large attendance of the Companions and many expressed their regret at you being unable to be with them. They are all hoping to have you visit them before your term is over. I expressed your regrets.

"The installation went off well, and the new officers are a fine set of men, and the Chapter should prosper. After the work was finished, about 100 sat

down at the banquet, which was a very enjoyable affair.

“At the conclusion of the Chapter meeting, R. Ex. Comp. Cowie, on behalf of the Chapter, presented me with a beautiful cigarette case as a memento of my visit.

I examined the Chapter books and everything appears in fine shape. I enjoyed the trip very much and was indeed pleased to be able to help you. My expenses for the trip were \$35.85.”

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 103, NORTH BAY.—As I did not visit this Chapter, I made careful enquiries as to the condition of Capitular Masonry in St. John's, No. 103, and my information corroborated which I knew as to the proficiency of the officers and the work.

Ex. Comp. T. M. Sale, Z., carried out a successful programme of progress during the past year, and Ex. Comp. B. F. Nott, the Scribe E., has long filled this position with credit to himself and honour to the Royal Craft. The future of this Chapter is excellent.

TEMISKAMING CHAPTER, No. 169, NEW LISKEARD.—This is my mother Chapter. I had the honour and privilege of being one of the candidates at their institution meeting in October, 1909. It was with extreme regret that I was unable to visit this Chapter officially, but from my own personal knowledge of all the officers, I know that the work in all degrees is well rendered. The finances are in good condition and the books in excellent shape. Ex. Comp. J. G. McMillan, as Z., has closed a most satisfactory year of office; the Scribe E., Ex. Comp. J. H. Brown, being efficient in every respect. The future of this Chapter is bright.

COBALT CHAPTER, No. 203, COBALT.—I was unable to visit this Chapter personally, and the following is R. Ex. Comp. Robert LeHeup's report who officiated for me:

"On December 15th, at your request, I visited this Chapter as the representative of Grand Chapter on an official visit. I was accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. C. W. Haentschel and Ex. Comp. J. G. Mc-Millan. We were most enthusiastically received and regrets were general at your inability to be present.

"The installation of officers took place at this meeting, consequently no degree work was attempted. The officers expressed their willingness to put on any degree, if I should wish it, but as I have had so many opportunities of witnessing the work done by the officers of Cobalt Chapter during the year, I considered it unnecessary. I can assure you that this Chapter is in the forefront as regards the conferring of degrees, and in the enthusiasm of its officers. The books are well kept, very little dues outstanding, financial condition good, standard of work high, and prospects excellent."

NORTHERN LIGHTS CHAPTER, NO. 213, TIMMINS.—I visited this Chapter three times and have always been impressed with the good fellowship that prevails among the Companions here. Ex. Comp. Geo. S. Murphy has an excellent set of officers, the work in all the degrees being exceedingly well exemplified. The books of the Scribe E. are well kept, and the future of this Chapter is exceedingly bright.

ABITIBI CHAPTER, NO. 223, IROQUOIS FALLS.—This being my own Chapter, I attended every meeting of both the Executive Committee and the Chapter. I have witnessed the conferring of all the degrees and naturally feel pleased to report exceedingly good progress. The Chapter has an excellent and capable set of officers under Ex. Comp. A. E. Brewer, with a most efficient Scribe E., in the person of Ex. Comp. H. E. Ruwald, whose books are perfect in every detail. This Chapter has made satisfactory progress during the past year, and its future is very bright. The officers and Companions of this Chapter were loyal to me in the matter of accompanying me on my official visits.

COCHRANE CHAPTER, No. 244, COCHRANE.—I have had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter on many occasions, and I congratulate the officers upon the progress they have made during their short life. This Chapter received their Warrant only last year. The future of the Chapter is bright. Ex. Comp. D. W. Cameron, the Z., worked hard and faithfully, as did all the officers and members, and Comp. Lome T. Charlton made a very capable Scribe E., his books and records being in fine shape. I will have many opportunities of visiting this Chapter next year, and will take much pleasure in giving them any assistance necessary.

Before closing, I again desire to express my appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown to me by the officers and Companions of all the Chapters throughout this vast District, and for the hearty welcome I received at each Chapter visited.

I particularly desire to renew my thanks to R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith for his prompt and most satisfactory manner in replying to all communications. He has been a tower of strength to me during the past year.

Fraternally submitted,

FRANK K. EBBITT,

Grand Supt. New Ontario District, No. 15.

Iroquois Falls, Ont.

YUKON TERRITORY.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Acting as Grand Superintendent of Yukon District, and more particularly Klondike Chapter, No. 154, I wish to state that no false prophecy was made in the last returns for 1925.

As the records show thirteen new members for the year and one restored, which is the most business this Chapter has ever had. While I cannot see so many in sight for the approaching year, we shall have some work at least.

Klondike Chapter is now in better shape every way than it has been for years, and the new members are a great stimulant.

You will notice that I am presenting Ex. Comp. Charles I. Tennant's name for Grand Superintendent, and trust that it will meet with your approval.

Thanking you for past favors, and wishing Grand Chapter success in the coming year, I remain fraternally and sincerely yours,

FRANK H. OSBORN,
Acting District Supt.

Dawson City, Y.T.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the reports of the Grand Superintendents of the Districts be referred to the Committee on Condition of Capitular Masonry, to report later at this Convocation.



M. EX. COMP. GEORGE MOORE,
Grand Treasurer.

ADDRESSES OF SOME OF THE DISTINGUISHED
VISITORS.

The Grand Z. called on several of the distinguished visitors to address the Grand Chapter. The first of these was Most Worshipful Brother John A. Rowland, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, who spoke as follows:—

M. Ex. Sir and Companions all: "I am sure it is a very great privilege to be here to-day and to bring to you the fraternal greetings and good wishes of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario. During the very kind introduction which I received when I entered this Grand Chapter, the statement was made that I was the corner-stone of the whole institution, but after all there is a good deal of truth in that description. You must of necessity draw your materials from my storehouse, and therefore, your welfare is necessarily bound up with our own. If we fail in Blue Lodge Masonry you in the Royal Craft cannot succeed. If we in Blue Lodge Masonry succeed, in the full sense of the term, you in the Royal Craft cannot consequently fail. But there is one thing I would like to impress upon you as Royal Arch Masons and it is this, it strikes me that in this North American continent one of the greatest dangers that threatens Masonry to-day is the feature of personal interpretations, and very often erroneous interpretations of the mission and purpose of Masonry on the part of bodies who are affiliated with it, and sometimes of bodies who are not affiliated with it, but pretend to have some connection with it. I believe that the welfare of the Royal Craft and the welfare of Masonry in general depends to some extent, at least, upon the very closest co-operation and cordial understanding between this Grand Body and the one over which I have the honour to preside.

May I say Companions, that I am very glad to be here and on behalf of all Masons in the Province of Ontario I give you my very best wishes for your continued success."

R. Ex. Sir Kt. W. H. A. Eckhardt, Grand Chancellor of the Knights Templar Body, was the next speaker and stated, that just one year ago he had the privilege of being in Windsor, Ont., and attending the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter in company with M. Em. Sir Knight E. A. Evans, the then Sovereign Grand Master of the Knights Templar, and he enjoyed that visit so much, that he was pleased to receive the invitation to be present to-day. He expressed regret at the inability of the present Sovereign Grand Master, M. Em. Sir Knight Col. Geo. B. McLeod, to be along with him. He then outlined a brief and interesting history of the Knights Templar Order from the year 1798, and the good work they were doing in connection with the Knights Templar Orphan Fund, which provided for the orphan children of the deceased members until they were thirteen years of age.

M. Ill. Bro. Alfred F. Webster, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33rd Deg. A. & A.S.R. mentioned, that it was his duty to attend this Convocation as he had been a member of the Grand Chapter for a quarter of a century. We have heard, as English Masonry has frequently said, that there are three degrees in Masonry with the Holy Royal Arch. Now the Scottish Rite is having wonderful success, and I believe is doing wonderful work. It has been said, that the Blue Lodge is the public school, the Royal Arch Chapter the High School, and the Scottish Rite is the University of Masonry. We in the Scottish Rite are merely illustrating and presenting in a different form that which you have already had. Like their Church going, it sometimes becomes the same style preached over and over, but when you go on and have the same lesson presented in a different form, perhaps by different voices, and you see some of your old friends who will say, and say it from their hearts, that this is what has been the making of them, and we believe for the making of the stability of our country. I think from this

you will understand why there is so much harmony in the Masonry of Ontario.

The M. Ex. the Grand Z. expressed his delight with the remarks of the representatives of the Masonic Bodies who had just spoken, and would like to hear from some of the representatives of American Chapters, including New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, also from the Grand Chapter of Quebec. He now called on M. Ex. Comp. W. A. Russell, G.H.P. of the Grand Chapter of New York.

M. Ex. Comp. Russell remarked that after standing the rapid fire introduction which he received at the hands of M. Ex. Comp. Fred. Harcourt, he thought he would still survive. M. Ex. Comp. Harcourt intimated, that if there was anything in Canada that he liked or loved and wanted he would get it. M. Ex. Comp. Harcourt was still a resident of Canada, and either he did not love him or his price was too high. He intimated how much he and his accompanying officers appreciated the kind invitation to attend the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, and if there was one place he liked to go, it was to visit the Grand Chapter of Canada, and the good Companions of that Grand Body. That he said from the heart. We are connected in the same work, we look forward to the same ideals, and we hope for the same results. May your jurisdiction continue to prosper, your Royal Arch Masonry everywhere flourish, and may the principles for which it stands be universal throughout the world.

M. Ex. Comp. Harry L. Izor, G.H.P. of the Grand Chapter of Michigan remarked that he brought fraternal greetings from 47,000 Royal Arch Masons of Michigan, and there was much personal gratification in so doing. He was glad to meet and come in personal contact with the spirit of good fellowship which prevailed so beautifully at the present Convocation. He was particularly pleased to be present as a Mason among Masons, and appreciating the views he held to him was the most sacred one, that he was a Mason. I represent those who come

from the south, the east and the west of our State, emphasizing the glorious truth that Masonry is found in all the Christian countries and no matter where one goes, it will be found that each and every one of us is an integral part of that great institution that has stood the test of all ages.

R. Ex. Comp. Walton K. Swetland, Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, stated he enjoyed the pleasure of being present at the Sixty-Eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada. Last year it was his privilege to attend the Sixty-Seventh Annual Convocation held in the City of Windsor, Ont., on which occasion he was accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. A. P. Zunzig, Grand Scribe. He mentioned that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, which he represented, was the first Grand Chapter in the United States, being founded in the year 1795. He apologized for the absence of their Grand High Priest, which was due entirely to the serious illness of his youngest son, who had been seriously ill with pneumonia since November last.

M. Ex. Comp. W. M. Couper, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, expressed his sincere appreciation for the invitation to be present. He represented the oldest daughter of the Grand Chapter of Canada at this Annual Convocation. This was his first visit to the Mother Grand Chapter, and it was quite fitting he should be present as it was the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and he brought good will, friendship and fraternal greetings of his Grand Body. May happiness, prosperity, and peace still continue within your walls and as age goes on, should it ever happen that the Mother wishes to extend the hand and call upon the daughter for help, your daughter will be at your service. It was mentioned to-day that the foundation of Masonry was to be found in the Blue Lodges, but let me just mention in regard to our Royal Craft, that while the foundation is laid in Symbolic Masonry, the task is given to us to build the superstructure and we have gone on and completed the

roof, putting the keystone in place which cemented that structure and finished the building. We call each other "Companions," and that is a word I would like to use and emphasize in life, for after all what is Freemasonry, if we do not make a practical use of it. When we leave these walls, Companions, and meet outside on the street, do you pass each other by or do you stop and grasp each other by the hand? When you meet in the work-shop do you never mention the word "Companion?" Or in the office, or place of business? Do we go through life and forget the meaning of that word? That is what I call the application of Freemasonry. We make it practical and what is the lesson that we draw from the Royal Arch. We build a temple within ourselves, looking to the future and as we go on through life and say "Companion," it bespeaks so much to each and every one of us.

I thank you for the privilege of being here to say a few words and wish the incoming officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada every prosperity and good luck.

M. Ex. Comp. Charles A. Conover, Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, as well as Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Michigan said, he appreciated the invitation to be present and mentioned that while in Toronto he had availed himself of the opportunity of visiting the Grand Council of the Cryptic Rite of Canada. He was glad to know that they were starting on a pilgrimage along that line, and he wanted to commend that splendid Order to the Convocation. It is a first-class organization, and it brings the missing link between the Lodge and the Chapter which is beautifully explained traditionally in the Order of the Royal and Select Masters. I also wish to say that the first time I saw the Royal Arch degree conferred in this Jurisdiction I said at the time, "I have had a new degree."

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

Grand Chapter was called from Labour at 12.30 o'clock noon for luncheon as well as to enable the Districts to select their Grand Superintendents for the ensuing year.

After the elections of the Grand Superintendents, the Companions assembled in the Banquet Hall, where a dinner was served. A Quartette from The Bell Telephone Co. enlivened the proceedings with their singing, and the following speakers were called on by the Grand Z.: R. Ex. Comps. Charles Hammel, District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New York; Geo. W. Leedle, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, and M. Ex. Comp. W. W. Williamson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, each of whom gave brief, but interesting addresses on Capitular Masonry.

RESUMING LABOUR

On Grand Chapter resuming labour at 2.00 o'clock p.m., the following nominations were submitted to the M. Ex. the Grand Z., who was pleased to approve in each case, and the selections were confirmed:

R. Ex. Comp.	Harry Campbell,		
	Ridgetown	St. Clair	Dist. No. 1
" "	Henry E. Livermore,		
	London	London	" 2
" "	Bernard C. Brown,		
	Paris	Wilson	" 3
" "	Henry Corke, George-		
	town	Wellington	" 4
" "	Paul E. Lumsdon,		
	Hamilton	Hamilton	" 5
" "	Fred Porterfield,		
	Mitchell	Huron	" 6
" "	John Herod, Thorold	Niagara	" 7
" "	Wm. H. Roberts, Tor-		
	onto	Toronto East	" 8
" "	P. K. Perry, Toronto	Toronto West	" 8a
" "	Thomas C. Luke, Mid-		
	land	Georgian	" 9
" "	Albert E. Challis, Co-		
	bourg	Ontario	" 10

"	"	"	Charles A. Walters,			
			Napanee	Prince Edward	"	11
"	"	"	Frederick W. Elliott,			
			Prescott	St. Lawrence	"	12
"	"	"	Fred C. Avery, Perth	Ottawa	"	13
"	"	"	M. Barrett, Rainy			
			River	Algoma	"	14
"	"	"	John B. Way, Sault			
			Ste. Marie	New Ontario	"	15
"	"	"	George C. Murphy,			
			Schumacher	Temiskaming	"	16
"	"	"	Charles I. Tennant,			
			Dawson	Yukon Territory		

COMMUNICATIONS AND GREETINGS.

The Grand Scribe stated he had received many letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at this Annual Convocation, as well as extending fraternal Greetings.

Telegram:—M. Ex. Comp. F. W. Brownell, Grand Z., Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Manitoba, "Winnipeg, February 23rd, 1926—To the Grand Z., officers and members Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, on the occasion of your Annual Convocation I wish to convey our fraternal Greetings to your Grand Body. May the Supreme Ruler of the Universe so direct your deliberation that the world in general may be benefited because of your organization."

Greetings in respect to our Christmas cards were received from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Government House, Ottawa; Earl Cassillis, Grand First Principal Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, and others.

Letters were received from the Grand Secretaries and Grand Scribes E. of the Grand Chapters of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, all expressing the kindest feelings towards the Grand Chapter of Canada. Letters were also received expressing inability to be present from V. Ex. Comp. H. A. MacKay, Hamilton; R. Ex. Comps. J. K. Brydon, Kenora; and J. H. Cowan, Galt.

GRAND TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

February 1st, 1925, to January 31st, 1926.

Received by Grand Scribe E. from Chapters on account of Dues, Fees, etc.	\$16,112.86	Accounts Paid— Cheques and Cash	\$12,462.77
Interest on Investments	3,409.13	Benevolent Grants..	2,915.00
Profit on Toronto Industrial School Debentures matured	647.70		
			\$15,377.77
		Excess Receipts over Payments (see below) (A) ..	4,791.92
	<u>\$20,169.69</u>		<u>\$20,169.69</u>

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

Investments, February 1st, 1925, at cost, as per last accounts	\$60,943.30	Matured and paid, Toronto Industrial School Debentures at cost (for profit see above)	\$16,352.30
Bought, Dominion of Canada War Loan, 5½%, due Nov. 1st, 1934....	18,684.00	Investments, Jan. 31st, 1926, at cost, as per Schedule	64,319.70
City of Hamilton Debenture, 6%, due Oct. 1st, 1931	1,044.70		
	<u>\$80,672.00</u>		<u>\$80,672.00</u>

February 1st, 1925, Capital:—

At Canadian Bank of Commerce	\$11,764.65
Incidentals Account in hand.....	26.02

\$11,790.67

Investments	60,943.30
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\$72,733.97

January 31st, 1926, Capital:—

Cash on hand	\$ 179.80
At Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	12,967.34
Incidentals Account in hand	59.05

\$13,206.19

Investments, as per Schedule	64,319.70
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\$77,525.89

Increase (see A. above)\$ 4,791.92

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 31st, 1926.

	Cost	Par Value
City of Stratford Debentures, Interest 4%, payable yearly, due January 1st, 1927	\$ 2,521.00	\$ 2,521.00
City of Hamilton Debenture, Interest 6%, payable half-yearly, April 1st and October 1st, due October 1st, 1931	1,044.70	1,000.00
Dominion of Canada War Loan Bonds, Interest 5½%, payable half-yearly, May 1st and November 1st, due November 1st, 1933, (fully registered)	3,135.00	3,000.00
Dominion of Canada War Loan Bonds, Interest 5½%, payable half-yearly, May 1st and November 1st, due November 1st, 1934, (fully registered)	57,619.00	57,000.00
	<u>\$64,319.70</u>	<u>\$63,521.00</u>

(Signed) GEORGE MOORE,
Grand Treasurer.

B. F. GRIGGS, C.A.,
Auditor.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SCRIBE E.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Progress throughout the Jurisdiction, as to an increase in membership, has been substantial, though not equal to that of the previous year. It is evident, after a period of unexampled growth, that the Royal Craft in this, as in other Jurisdictions, is returning to normal conditions, and that we may anticipate in the future a more conservative activity for the general welfare of Royal Arch Masonry.

RETURNS

Annual Returns have been received from the 153 Chapters. From these Returns we find there was a net increase of 335, making the total membership in this Jurisdiction, 25,650, at the end of last year.

EXALTATIONS AND LOSSES

The Exaltations for 1925, were 1,143, being 190 less than the previous year, when we had 1,333. There were 91 Joinings, being 75 less; 35 Restorations, 18 less; 269 Withdrawals, 15 more, and 232 deaths 7 less than the previous year; the Suspensions were 433, being 142 more than that for the year 1924. The Suspensions you will see have been exceedingly heavy.

Ninety-eight Chapters show a net gain, 41 Chapters show a net loss, 14 Chapters show neither a gain nor loss. Six Chapters did no ritualistic work.

The two largest Chapters in the Jurisdiction are in Toronto, Occident, No. 77, with a membership of 718, and The St. Patrick, No. 145, with a membership of 711.

DISPENSATIONS

There have been issued eighty-six Dispensations, five less than in the previous year. These were for

qualifying Companions elected to fill the positions of First and Second Principals; for changing dates of holding Convocations of Chapters, and a few to confer the Royal Arch degree in connection with the other degrees on the same evening, and for holding "At Homes."

All the Chapters have paid their fees and dues, the total receipts from this source being \$16,112.86, and with the interest on investments and bank balances, \$3,409.13, makes a total in receipts of \$19,521.99. This information as to the finances of Grand Chapter is fully set forth, with the disbursements, in the reports of the Grand Treasurer and the Audit and Finance Committee. Other information concerning the constituent Chapters is also attached to this report.

In bringing to a close the report of the work for the year in the Office of the Grand Scribe E., I have tried to make it brief. There are many matters of detail which, though they take up a great part of the time and attention of the Office, have not been mentioned.

Fraternally submitted,
HENRY T. SMITH,
Grand Scribe E.

NEW CHAPTERS

The authorized Warrants, after the last Annual Convocation, were engrossed and forwarded to the proper officers for—

Cochrane Chapter, No. 244, Cochrane, Ont.,
Preston Chapter, No. 245, Preston, Ont., and
Humber Chapter, No. 246, Weston, Ont.

UNDER DISPENSATION

Nilestown Chapter, Nilestown, Ont., received its Dispensation, November 20th, 1924, and was Instituted on December 4th, 1924, with fourteen petitioners. It was continued under Dispensation last year.

CERTIFICATES OF STANDING

During the past year Certificates of Standing were issued to Companions William John Mast, Archibald McLean Fletcher, and William James Timlick, who had been members in good standing of Crow's Nest Chapter, No. 137, Fernie, B.C., at the time it became dormant on January 29th, 1918, by surrendering all of its books and Warrant to Grand Chapter. The Grand Scribe E. was authorized by resolution, adopted at the Annual Convocation, February 28th, 1917, to grant such Certificates on being satisfied that the Companions were in good standing on the records of Grand Chapter at the time Crow's Nest Chapter became dormant.

PRESENT STANDING OF MEMBERSHIP

The following table shows the present standing of the membership of Grand Chapter:

Number of Chapters, Warranted.....	153	
Number of Members, December 31st, 1924....	25,315	
Number of Registrations, December 31st, 1925	1,143	
Number of Joinings, December 31st, 1925	91	
Number of Restorations, December 31st, 1925	35	
	—	1,269
Number of Withdrawals, December 31st, 1925	269	
Number of Suspensions, December 31st, 1925	433	
Number of Deaths, December 31st, 1925	232	
	—	934
Net Gain	—	335
<hr/>		
Total Membership, December 31st, 1925.....	25,650	

	Net Additions.	Net Removals.
Ontario	621	294
Yukon Territory	8	-----
	<hr/> 629	<hr/> 294

The Jurisdiction embraced 153 Chapters, December 31st, 1925, distributed as follows:—

	No. of Chapters.	Membership.
Ontario	152	25,534
Yukon Territory	1	116
	<hr/> 153	<hr/> 25,650

ACTIVE CHAPTERS

The Chapters reporting during the year 20 or more Exaltations are as follows:—

Ark, No. 80, Windsor, and Alberton, No. 152, Fort Frances, 35 each; Madoc, No. 161, Madoc, 31; St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4, Toronto, 29, and Palestine, No. 54, St. Thomas, 22.

BY-LAWS

By-laws have been presented to the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and approved for the following Chapters:—

Keystone, No. 35; The St. Patrick, No. 145; Alberton, No. 152; The St. Andrew, No. 238; Cochran, No. 244; Humber, No. 246.

Amendments to By-laws of Chapters have also been submitted and approved as follows:—

Carleton, No. 16; Mount Horeb, No. 20; Manitou, No. 27; Corinthian, No. 36; Victoria, No. 37; St. John's, No. 48; Sussex, No. 59; Doric, No. 60; York, No. 62;; Warkworth, No. 110; St. John's, No. 112; Bonnechere, No. 114; Brant, No. 115; St. Frances, No. 133; Succoth, No. 135; Atwood, No. 149; Alberton, No. 152; Ancaster, No. 155; Cobalt, No. 203; St. Alban's, No. 217; Ulster, No. 219; Abitibi, No. 223; The St. Clair, No. 231.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

YEAR 1ST FEBRUARY, 1925, TO 31ST JANUARY, 1926.

FEES AND DUES FROM CHAPTERS

1 Anct. Frontenac and Cataragui..\$235 20	63 Havelock 53 50
2 The Hiram 253 20	64 Willson 112 50
3 St. John's 186 80	65 St. Paul's 71 70
4 St. Andrew and St. John 230 10	66 The Malloch 48 65
5 St. George's 219 10	67 Enterprise 72 60
6 St. John's 537 05	68 Maitland 35 00
7 The Moira 192 70	69 Grimsby 92 00
8 King Solomon's .. 210 00	70 Grand River 48 50
15 Wawanosh 213 75	71 Prince of Wales.. 83 80
16 Carleton 299 80	72 Keystone 65 50
18 Oxford 138 10	73 Erie 86 70
19 Mount Moriah 167 50	74 Beaver 74 00
20 Mount Horeb 224 20	75 St. Clair 67 00
22 Grenville 74 00	76 Mount Nebo 139 50
23 Ezra 85 00	77 Occident 335 10
24 Tecumseh 154 50	78 Minnewawa 72 00
26 St. Mark's 126 80	79 Orient 168 70
27 Manitou 83 70	80 Ark 396 50
28 Pentalpha 111 50	81 Aylmer 60 60
29 McCallum 64 50	82 Shuniah 198 70
30 Huron 113 50	83 Ionic 71 30
31 Prince Edward... 103 00	84 Lebanon 70 15
32 Waterloo 91 00	86 Macpherson 42 75
34 Signet 166 15	88 MacNabb 63 60
35 Keystone 77 50	90 Golden 106 60
36 Corinthian 147 25	91 Antiquity 274 70
37 Victoria 89 80	94 Midland 107 35
40 Guelph 161 65	95 Tuscan 121 80
41 Harris 57 50	100 St. Lawrence ... 106 15
44 Mount Sinai 72 50	102 Algonquin 165 00
45 Excelsior 37 05	103 St. John's 66 00
47 Wellington 187 10	104 White Oak 47 00
48 St. John's 134 85	110 Warkworth 31 70
53 Bruce 78 00	112 St. John's 51 75
54 Palestine 240 20	113 Covenant 102 80
55 Niagara 46 85	114 Bonnechere 74 00
56 Georgian 86 80	115 Brant 110 25
57 King Hiram 61 60	116 Maple 56 10
58 Pembroke 13 50	117 Kitchener 112 90
59 Sussex 146 00	119 King Cyrus 97 50
60 Doric 50 30	129 Elliot 33 50
61 Granite 34 50	130 Chantry 44 50
62 York 98 00	131 Amabel 34 00
	132 Leeds 60 00
	133 St. Francis 115 15

134 King Darius	32 00	214 Vimy	33 80
135 Succoth	93 20	215 Mimico	77 10
138 Shekinah	214 40	217 St. Alban's	131 00
139 St. Andrew's	64 00	218 Prince Edward	24 00
140 Fort William	184 60	219 Ulster	114 20
143 Glengarry	29 50	220 Lebanon	43 00
144 Presque Isle	72 52	221 Durham	40 00
145 The St. Patrick	390 20	222 Ottawa	98 60
146 Bernard	76 60	223 Abitibi	56 55
147 Lucknow	33 00	224 Keystone	98 00
148 St. John's	18 00	225 Beaver	165 00
149 Atwood	51 75	226 Prince of Wales	41 00
150 London	201 50	227 Quinte Friendship	65 60
151 Laurentian	51 50	230 Port Credit	45 10
152 Alberton	151 50	231 The St. Clair	90 60
153 Sombra	66 50	232 King Cyrus	21 60
154 Klondike	62 60	233 Oakwood	63 60
155 Ancaster	98 10	234 Halton	129 50
161 Madoc	175 75	235 Aurora	28 15
163 The Beaches	86 10	236 Caledonia	26 35
164 Lorne	63 00	238 The St. Andrew	67 30
167 Kichikewana	80 00	239 Blenheim	57 50
168 Ionic	77 50	240 Smithville	49 45
169 Temiskaming	100 15	241 University	98 70
175 The Hamilton	70 60	242 St. Paul's	24 70
184 Hugh Murray	59 45	243 McKay	25 00
185 Toronto	212 80	244 Cochrane	60 20
195 Peel	75 50	245 Preston	51 00
198 Couchiching	80 35	246 Humber	79 20
203 Cobalt	104 40	247 Nilestown	62 10
205 Victoria	41 50	Sundries	256 54
210 Kitchener	36 50		
212 Mount Sinai	101 50		
213 Northern Lights	80 65		
			<hr/>
			\$16,112 86
			<hr/>

HENRY T. SMITH,

Grand Scribe E.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the statements of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Scribe E. for the year 1925 be received and referred to the Executive Committee for report thereon at the present Convocation.

WARRANTS

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Your Committee on Warrants beg to report as follows:—

Nilestown Chapter, Nilestown, Ont., was reported last year as having been Instituted on December 3rd, 1924, with fourteen petitioners, and was continued under Dispensation, it now has a membership of thirty.

The Grand Superintendent of the District reports that the Chapter has made favourable progress, it has the necessary equipment and paraphernalia for the proper carrying on of its work, and should receive its Warrant at this Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter.

Your Committee therefore recommend that a Warrant be granted to Nilestown Chapter, No. 247, Nilestown, Ont.

Fraternally submitted,

WALTER G. PRICE,

Chairman of Committee on Warrants.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Walter G. Price, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

REPORT ON BENEVOLENCE

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

The Committee on Benevolence have examined the applications for relief presented to them and respectfully recommend that the following grants be made:—

Chapter No.	3—Widow of J. J. H.	\$ 60 00
" "	3—Widow of A. B. F.	60 00
" "	3—Widow of T. W.	60 00
" "	4—Comp. R. B. A.	100 00
" "	5—Widow of J. B.	60 00
" "	8—Comp. H. E. P.	100 00
" "	8—Widow of J. T. G.	60 00
" "	18—Widow of W. W. B.	60 00
" "	19—Mother of J. M. F.	60 00
" "	27—Widow of J. W. M.	60 00
" "	28—Widow of C. W. S.	60 00
" "	37—Widow of R. M. J.	50 00
" "	44—Widow of H. R.	50 00
" "	46—Comp. W. H. E.	100 00
" "	53—Daughter of J. S.	50 00
" "	53—Widow of R. F. B.	50 00
" "	54—Widow of S. D.	60 00
" "	54—Widow of J. A. S.	60 00
" "	54—Widow of J. B.	50 00
" "	60—Widow of J. O.	50 00
" "	60—Widow of W. C.	50 00
" "	62—Widow of R. J. G.	60 00
" "	62—Widow of W. D.	50 00
" "	63—Widow of P. F.	50 00
" "	63—Comp. A. McK.	100 00
" "	63—Widow of M. M.	60 00
" "	72—Comp. L. F. M.	100 00
" "	72—Comp. P. H. S.	100 00
" "	74—Comp. J. T. N.	100 00
" "	77—Widow of H. S. G.	50 00
" "	77—Widow of A. S.	50 00
" "	77—Widow of J. M.	60 00
" "	77—Widow of W. P.	50 00
" "	77—Widow of W. B. S.	50 00
" "	83—Widow of S. S. M.	60 00
" "	91—Widow of R. J. R.	60 00
" "	91—Widow of N. H. B.	60 00
" "	91—Widow of A. A. (Special)	50 00
" "	112—Widow of A. C.	50 00

"	"	135—Comp. W. F.	100 00
"	"	135—Widow of M. A. G.	60 00
"	"	138—Widow of W. I.	60 00
"	"	138—Widow of C. S. S.	60 00
"	"	140—Widow of J. W. McE.	60 00
"	"	150—Widow of F. M.	50 00
			<hr/>
			\$2,860 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. W. HARCOURT,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan,
seconded by R. Ex. Comp. J. B. Nixon, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on Benevolence be received and adopted.

AUDIT AND FINANCE

To the Most Excellent Grand First Principal and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Your Committee on Audit and Finance have pleasure in submitting the Financial Statement as compiled by the Auditor, Comp. B. F. Griggs, Chartered Accountant.

While the receipts from subordinate Chapters were a trifle less than last year, yet through the increased revenue derived from interest on investments and the economy practised by the Grand Z. and other Grand Chapter Officers, we have been able to add the sum of \$4,791.92 to the Capital account of Grand Chapter.

The total funds of Grand Chapter at January 31st, 1926, amounted to \$77,525.89. The sum of \$64,319.70 is invested in gilt-edged interest-bearing securities, as will be set out in the Grand Treasurer's report, while the sum of \$13,206.19 is carried as Cash in Bank and on hand to meet the current expenses of Grand Chapter. The financial results have been most gratifying to your Committee.

The Auditor reports that the books and accounts of Grand Chapter have been kept in the usual excellent manner by the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Scribe E.

SUMMARY CASH ACCOUNT, YEAR ENDED
JANUARY 31st, 1926.

RECEIPTS

Balances, February 1st, 1925—

In Canadian Bank of Commerce\$11,764 65

Incidentals Account in hands of

Grand Scribe E. 26 02

—————\$11,790 67

Receipts from Chapters—

Certificates\$ 1,186 00

Dues 12,798 40

Fees 1,171 00

Dispensations and Warrants 142 00

Constitutions 309 70

Sundries 505 76

—————\$16,112 86

ANNUAL CONVOCATION, TORONTO, 1926 157

Interest Received on Investments	3,409 13
Investment Account—	
Toronto Industrial School Debentures matured	17,000 00

\$48,312 66

PAYMENTS

Benevolence	\$ 2,915 00
“ Inspection of	50 00
	<hr/> \$ 2,965 00

Investments purchased—

Dom. of Can. War Loan,	
5½%, due 1923.....	\$18,684 00
Accrued interest to Dec.	
19th, 1925	130 19
	<hr/> \$18,814 19

City of Hamilton 6% De-	
benture	\$ 1,044 70

Accrued interest to Nov.	
27th, 1925	9 37

1,054 07

Charges—

Salaries	\$ 4,554 16
Superannuation	1,000 00
Foreign Correspondence Report	300 00
Office Rent, Telephone, etc.	1,115 60
Premium on Guarantee Bond and	
Fire Insurance	18 00
Grand Chapter Convocation Ex-	
penses, 1925	582 05
Grand Chapter Convocation Ex-	
penses, 1926, on Account	9 00
Expenses of Executive Committee	
attending Convocation of Grand	
Chapter	914 55

Printing, Engrossing, etc.—

Proceedings	\$1,594 86
Constitutions	361 23
Certificates	231 74
General Printing, Sta-	
tionery and Binding....	355 05

2,542 88

Audit and Financial Reports to	
January 31st, 1925	250 00

Grand Z. Expenses	600 00
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Funeral Wreath and Flowers.....	20 00
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Grand Scribe E.—

Office Incidentals, Postages and	
General Expenses	366 97

12,273 21

\$35,106 47

Balances, January 31st, 1926—

In Canadian Bank of Commerce	\$12,967 34	
Cash on hand	179 80	
Incidentals Account in hands of Grand Scribe E.	59 05	
		<hr/> 13,206 19
		<hr/> \$48,312 66

I have audited the books and vouchers of Grand Chapter for the year ended January 31st, 1926, and found them in order. I certify that the above is a correct summary of the Accounts and that I have inspected and found in order the Investments of Grand Chapter, the cost value of same being \$64,319.70, and the par value \$63,521.00.

B. F. GRIGGS, C.A.,
of Sharp, Milne & Co.

Toronto, February 5th, 1926.

We call your attention to the fact that the Foreign Correspondence this year forms a volume of 332 pages and will cost, including printing and extra postage, approximately \$1,000.00. Your Committee consider that this expenditure is more than Grand Chapter should incur for this purpose and respectfully recommend that the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be requested to so curtail its Report that in future it shall not exceed from 150 to 200 pages.

Your Committee begs to submit the following estimates of expenditure for the current year:—

Benevolence	\$2,860 00
“ Inspection	50 00
Salaries	4,654 16
Superannuation	1,000 00
Foreign Correspondence	300 00
Office Rent—Telephone, etc.	1,115 60
Premium on Guarantee Bonds, etc.	18 00
Grand Chapter Convocation Expenses.....	500 00
Expenses of Executive Committee	750 00
Printing, Engrossing, etc.	2,800 00
Auditor's Salary	250 00
Grand Z.'s Expenses	900 00
Office Expenses and Incidentals	450 00
Presentation to I.P. Grand Z.	350 00

We further recommend the re-appointment of
Comp. B. F. Griggs as Auditor.

Respectfully submitted,

O. ELLWOOD,

Chairman.

Toronto, Ont.,

February 24th, 1926.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan,
seconded by R. Ex. Comp. O. Ellwood, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on
Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Your Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada desire to present their Annual Report. At the outset we are constrained to say that as we survey the year just closed we cannot but distinguish a splendid advance in all lines of thought and action. We have enjoyed a period of great Masonic activity. From all points of the Capitular Compass there has been no indication of turbulent or threatening weather. Our skies are bright, and Peace, Harmony, and Good-will obtain throughout the length and breadth of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Those faithful labourers in the vineyard of the Capitular Craft, the Grand Superintendents, have without exception exhibited wisdom, skill, and experience in the discharge of their duties. Their work, while a labour of love, has been exacting in the demands upon their time and energy, and stands as an impressive exemplification of a meritorious performance of official duty.

Their reports are extremely well compiled, interesting, and illuminative in character, and show a breadth of vision as well as a keen sense of gratitude and appreciation of the honour conferred upon them, and a very clear understanding of the dignity and responsibility of the position of trust in which they have been placed.

A careful perusal of the Grand Superintendents' reports definitely establishes that in travelling the now well-beaten, and in some cases lengthy, trail of the territories controlled by this Grand Body, these faithful, zealous, and energetic Companions have ably upheld the best traditions of the past, and have achieved a marvellous amount of work in their respective Districts during the past twelve months.

Your Committee desire to place before you certain statistics generally accepted as a safe and certain barometer of the vital condition of the Royal Craft. It is with pardonable pride, therefore, that we record the present composition of Grand Chapter as 153 constituent Chapters, and 25,650 members in good standing, and it is our intention briefly to both analyze and summarize the results of the year's labour of this Grand Army of loyal, interested, and enthusiastic workmen.

The tabulated report which will follow shows that the past year has been one of great material prosperity for the Fraternity, and a substantial increase in membership is the result. We have every incentive to be encouraged and to redouble our assiduity in carrying on the important work of Royal Arch Masonry.

We are pleased to note that the prevailing sentiment is not "more members," but "better members," a desire to admit only those who may pass successfully the acid test of character that they may become as better material for our Mystic Temple, and though we sometimes see and must expect the human in our ranks, yet we are moving towards that high destiny for which our institution exists. We would fain persuade ourselves that our beloved Royal Craft is to-day on a higher plane in all particulars. The Golden Rule seems to actuate our Chapters in all their dealings one with the other, and its influence is reflected in the daily lives of the individual members, who also are becoming more studious of the literature, history, and tradition of the Royal Arch. A better knowledge of our ritual is becoming more and more widespread. Peace and Good-will to all men is a Divine Command and the desire to propagate this sentiment permeates our ranks to a very substantial extent.

If our Order stands for anything, it is surely to be found upon the side of good citizenship, the promotion of patriotism, and the uplift of character. A man who does not exercise a beneficial influence

upon those with whom he associates, can never be considered as material that will lend strength to our structure. Our members must be brought to a realization that the beautiful lessons which we endeavour to present in an impressive manner to all who assemble under our Banners, are not intended merely to provide a vehicle for a display of ritualistic talent, nor yet just a part of an attractive and interesting yet insincere ceremonial, but are intended to awaken within their breasts a desire to qualify as Craftsmen who are sincere in act, word, and purpose, who are willing to take the erring and less fortunate Companion by the hand and lead him over the rough and rugged road of trial and tribulation to a higher plane of peace, usefulness and happiness. Our numerical growth, then, while of paramount importance, must not be permitted to totally eclipse the need for development along other lines. While difference in belief and practice must ever be expected, yet we must also confess that this difference very often leads to greater interest, if not greater progress.

We are not entirely in accord with the methods adopted in many of the Chapters for the soliciting of Master Masons to petition for the Chapter degree. Our personal observations justify the statement that the members who prove most valuable are those who come in of their own free-will and accord. The subtle suggestion that engenders the desire for further light, the manifestation of the proper social and fraternal spirit, and the widening of the scope for Masonic activity and service will do more to attract desirable members than any amount of urging and importunity. To this end we are glad to see a movement all along the line for higher degree of expression and greater regard for the dignity and solemnity of the Holy Royal Arch. It marks an era of improvement that has been already prolific of interest and growth.

We should ever guard against the evil of undue passiveness when Royal Arch Masonry is used

merely as a bridge to cross an intervening space to gain something beyond the Chapter. If we attain success it can only be by the retention of interest among our membership, who should seek the Royal Arch not as transients, but as sojourners who having made the Great Discovery, seek the benefit of our teaching and our association, learning to cultivate purity of heart and rectitude of conduct, and properly seized with the knowledge that a degree in Masonry is of little value unless it brings forth fruit in action.

Care, then, in the selection of our material is the first essential to success, followed by the need for equal caution in the selection of our officers and leaders. "He who would wear the spurs must first win them" applies here very forcibly. Upon their interest, energy, and application depends very materially the success or failure of the Chapter to either attract new members or retain the interest of those already enrolled. Having been placed in positions of responsibility, these Companions should strive to justify the confidence reposed in them. There is no excuse for indifference, lack of enthusiasm, or for poor workmanship. The surroundings and equipment may vary, but the fundamental principles and basic doctrines are the same. Kipling in "The Mother Lodge" gave poetic expression to this sentiment when he said:—

"We hadn't good regalia, and our Lodge was old and bare,
 "But we knew the ancient landmarks, and kept them to a hair."

Surely it is not too much, then, to expect that an officer shall set an example in diligence, interest, and enthusiasm. Precept and example should ever advance with equal pace. Regular attendance, proficiency in his work, and attention to the affairs of the Chapter generally, may be accepted as evidence of an officer's desire to serve. It also provides a very excellent example for the members generally to emulate. The path of duty may not always run over level ground, nor is it always bordered with pleasant

meadows and attractive flowers, but a rigid adherence to the obligation to serve carries its own reward, leads at last to the goal of serene satisfaction, and contributes in no small measure to the ultimate success of the Chapter.

Another very definite adjunct to success in Masonic work is the ability of the members to strengthen the usual ties of fraternalism by the bonds of Friendship and Brotherly Love. Every opportunity should be afforded the Companions to meet socially not alone members of their own Chapter, but also the Companions of other Chapters. This intercourse exercises a broadening, beneficial, and unifying influence, breaking down the walls of parochialism in the development of a wider and more penetrating vision, a greater sense of appreciation and understanding and a lengthening and strengthening of the Golden Chain of Brotherhood. Nothing induces Strength as Unity, nothing so unifying as Friendship, and in Strength, Unity, and Friendship, we have the component parts of the real success which we must attain and preserve if that Masonry which has come down to us through the storied past is to withstand the test of time and to endure in the days to come.

BENEVOLENCE

A careful analysis of the Grand Superintendents' reports impresses your Committee with the fact that our growth has not been alone of a numerical or financial character, but, on the contrary, we continue to grow in good works, and enlarged activities in favour of Charity and Benevolence.

Our Fraternity exists for the purpose of teaching those deep lessons, so often brought before us in the three virtues, Faith, Hope, and Charity. We extol these virtues but consider Charity the greatest of the three, because it is active. One may be filled with Faith and Hope, yet be idle; but one cannot love or entertain the true principle of Charity without serving.

Few Chapters have failed to give tangible evidence of their belief in the spirit of Service. During the year just closed the Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction have disbursed Benevolence in the sum of \$5,400.00, this amount being entirely independent of any action along these lines by Grand Chapter.

How quickly a truly benevolent act is repaid by the consciousness of having done it, and while we agree with the words of Cicero—"That we should be careful that our Benevolence does not exceed our means"—we also agree that the Benevolent affections owe much of their vigour to the frequency with which they are being exercised and where the need is truly Benevolent gives to the straining point.

"The Lessons of Prudence have charms,
And slighted may lead to distress,
But the man whom Benevolence warms
Is an Angel who lives but to bless."

The following table indicates the numerical strength of Grand Chapter:—

Number of Chapters—Warranted	152
Number of Chapters—under Dispensation.....	1
Number of Members—December 31st, 1924.....	25,315
Number of Joinings, December 31st, 1925.....	91
Number of Restorations, December 31st, 1925.....	35
Number of New Members for Year 1925.....	1,143
Number of Withdrawals—December 31st, 1925.....	269
Number of Suspensions—December 31st, 1925.....	433
Number of Deaths—December 31st, 1925.....	232
Total Membership—December 31st, 1925.....	25,650
Net Increase in Membership—335.	

INSURANCE

Under this heading we deem it expedient to again sound a note of warning to those Chapters who have failed to protect themselves by placing insurance upon their regalia and equipment. The greater number of Chapters have shown commendable wisdom in this connection, and while no doubt it is a matter for the individual Chapters to decide, yet we feel it incumbent upon us to once more impress upon them the advisability of care in this regard.

INSTRUCTION

Chapters of Instruction are rapidly becoming echoes of the past. According to reports before us, but four Grand Superintendents have looked with favour on this method of developing uniformity of interpretation and practice in the ritualistic work.

Many of the Grand Superintendents have given of their own time and experience in assisting the officers of the weaker Chapters. Lectures and explanations of our esoteric work have been encouraged by others, while a number have enlisted the sympathetic support of the Past Principals in the instruction of Officers. All of which is commendable and meets with our hearty approval, but we still have a very wholesome respect for the yearly Chapter of Instruction so familiar in days gone by.

Your Committee are profoundly impressed with the necessity for more definite action with regard to the Book of Marks. Indications are that many of the constituent Chapters have taken seriously the yearly appeal for observance of this regulation, but in a great number of Grand Superintendents' reports, this subject is dismissed with the laconic statement—"Book of Marks not kept." May we again stress the need for a compliance with the instructions governing the Book of Marks, and once more recommend that the Grand Superintendents be charged with the responsibility of enforcing this regulation, and in so doing eliminate the erroneous impression that this is an optional measure.

FINANCES

A review of the financial standing of Grand Chapter during the past twelve months will at once inspire a confidence in those responsible for this very important section of our affairs. Healthy, satisfactory, and encouraging, define conditions as we see them at the close of 1925. As in former years, we shall content ourselves with a passing reference to the financial condition of Grand Chap-

ter and focus our scrutiny on the financial strength of the constituent Chapters.

After a comprehensive survey and an intensive study of the internal affairs of the various Chapters as revealed by the statistical reports, we are prompted to place before you a few very interesting figures, and to again emphasize the need of closer attention to the question of dues.

As an overwhelming accentuation of this great need, we find that at the close of the past twelve months, an alarming increase in the outstanding dues which totalled \$31,822.00, representing 2,559 Companions in arrears. While no doubt this sum has since been materially reduced, yet, we are of the opinion that the amount still uncollected is sufficiently large to cause embarrassment and to seriously affect the financial condition of the individual Chapters.

These figures are somewhat disconcerting and cause to pause for reflection. What is responsible for this neglect? Surely not laxity on the part of the Scribes—certainly not because of the assessment being excessive. It can only be attributed to one of two influences. Either the effect of business conditions upon the individual, or lack of interest in the Chapters on the part of these delinquents. If the former, all's well, as time will surely right conditions. If, however, it is a matter of indifference, it is indeed a serious situation and only demonstrates the need of such action on the part of the Chapters as will engender and stimulate renewed interest in our work. Interest begets attendance, and with regular attendance the question of dues will undoubtedly take care of itself.

"Is Royal Arch Masonry too cheap?" is a very pertinent and timely query. It is interesting to note the valuation placed upon membership in many Chapters, and frankly we are inclined to think that some of these Chapters are trying to do the impossible. As a matter of good practice in the commercial world, we must fix our selling price suffi-

ciently higher than the cost of production to insure a fair margin of profit. Are we giving a year's membership with all its privileges and entertainment for less than cost? If so, financial difficulties is the inevitable result, and just here we should note that many Chapters have realized the necessity for adjustment along these lines and, by increasing the annual dues, are making their revenue commensurate with their operating expense. It is also remarkable that the greatest percentage of unpaid dues is found in the Chapters having an extremely reasonable assessment. Your Committee have no desire to step beyond its province, yet we are sufficiently concerned to urge, in the strongest possible terms, that the constituent Chapters give earnest consideration to this extremely vital question.

A retrospective view of the year 1925 would indicate that business conditions, while improving, lack that stability which marks the normal condition, and still call for alert supervision in all fiscal matters.

In this regard we find, from the material supplied, that the combined assets of the constituent Chapters show an excess of \$215,661.00 over the total liabilities. A casual glance at these figures cannot fail to make a distinct impression, but to the enquiring mind we should say that we do not place full credence in the authenticity of the assets as reported by a number of Chapters. The tendency of listing regalia and other equipment at replacement value, and failure to make just provision for depreciation, gives in many Chapters an inflated and absolutely unsound basis for computation of assets. While a physical appraisal by disinterested authorities would no doubt greatly reduce the total assets, in our judgment the amount would still be such as to establish faith in the solvency of our constituent Chapters and confidence in the future.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

From the reports of the Grand Superintendents, we learn that on the horizon there is nothing to affect the serenity of Royal Arch Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction. It is gratifying to read of the energy, enthusiasm, and loyalty, which characterize the 153 Chapters composing this Grand Body.

From Dawson City, in the Yukon Territory, splendid both in its isolation and in its fealty to the Mother Grand Chapter, most encouraging reports are received. No false prophecy was made last year when 1925 was referred to by our Companions in the frozen North as the dawn of a new era for Klondike Chapter. Not since 1911 has there been such interest and activity in Royal Arch Masonry in Dawson City. Energy, Harmony, and Loyalty feature the efforts of the fifteen Districts located within this great Masonic Province. Of the 153 Chapters, all are succeeding according to their talents. Progress in the right direction is not confined to the older established, but most encouraging reports have also been received from the younger Chapters.

As in former years, we read of the wonderful work of the Past Principals. Truly they are the backbone of Royal Arch Masonry. They have been weighed in the balance and have not been found wanting. In one report, we find reference to a Principal Sojourner who, although eighty years of age, is still performing his duties in an almost faultless manner. Another Grand Superintendent gives honorable mention to the oldest Royal Arch Mason in his District who, despite his advanced years, still fulfils in a most efficient manner the duties of Scribe E. Masonry is still a very tangible part of the daily lives of these men who have shut their doors against the setting sun. What an inspiration to those younger Companions who, in the full vigor of manhood, complain of the onerous duties of office!

A rigid adherence to duty, combined with an unselfish desire to serve, marks the work of the

Grand Superintendents. Frequent meetings, lengthy journeys, absence from home and business, all speak of the zeal and fidelity of these conscientious officials who, having been faithful to their trust and diligent in the discharge of their duties, now retire with the feeling of satisfaction that comes only with a knowledge of work well done.

Your Committee desire to pay tribute to the officers of Grand Chapter, whose devotion to the Royal Craft has inspired and encouraged all with whom they came in contact. No words can adequately express our appreciation of the splendid leadership of the M. Ex. the Grand Z. His many qualities as a man and a Mason have endeared him to his Companions. Of him we may truthfully say—"quiet, unassuming, yet possessing forceful characteristics, a deep current of friendship and love for the Companions about him," and now as his tenure of office draws to a close, may he be enabled to pass the mantle of authority to his successor with the words:—

"Where my caravan has rested—
Flowers I leave thee upon the grass
All the flowers of love and memory
You will find them when you pass."

In conclusion, may we say that Royal Arch Masonry is yearly occupying a more elevated plane, and our great endeavours should not only be to guard against retrogression, but by persistent, steadfast endeavour, ennobles and dignifies all that pertains to our forms, ceremonies, and ritual, and by purifying our mental, moral, and physical surroundings steadily advance towards true perfection.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. L. GARDINER,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. George L. Gardiner, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION,
LAWS AND JURISPRUDENCE

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

The Committee on Constitution, Laws and Jurisprudence beg leave to report as follows:—

1. R. Ex. Comp. J. Austin Evans has given notice of motion that the Constitution be amended by deleting Section No. 220, and substituting in lieu thereof the following:—

“The fiscal year of every constituent Chapter shall close on the 30th November. Immediately following such date, the books and accounts of the Chapter shall be audited by the Auditors who shall report such audit to the Chapter on the day appointed for the installation and investiture of the officers, and prior to such installation.”

There is no legal objection to this motion going before Grand Chapter, but if the purport of the motion commends itself to Grand Chapter then the necessary amendment should be made to Section 141 of the Constitution wherein it is provided that the financial year of the Chapters closes December 31st.

2. M. Ex. Comp. F. W. Harcourt, in compliance with the recommendation passed at the last annual Convocation of Grand Chapter has given the following notice of motion:

“That Section 39 of the Constitution be amended to read:—“The officers of Grand Chapter shall be elected or appointed annually, and shall hold office until their successors shall have been duly elected or appointed and installed with the exception of the Grand Scribe E., who shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, and continue without re-appointment during the pleasure of the Executive Committee.”

The M. Ex. Companion also gave notice that Section 125, sub-section 29 shall read:

“The Grand Scribe E. shall receive such compensation for his services as the Executive Committee of Grand Chapter may direct.”

There is no legal objection to this motion going before Grand Chapter for consideration, but the Committee beg to draw the attention of the Grand Chapter to the fact that no provision is made respecting the installation of a Grand Scribe E., or whether an installation is intended, and if intended when and where such installation shall take place. Section 57 of the Constitution provides for the installation of officers of Grand Chapter at the Annual Convocation. Sub-section 29 of Section 125 provides that the Grand Chapter shall settle the Grand Scribe E.'s compensation.

If the above notice of motion be carried, the requisite changes should be made in other portions of the Constitution.

3. R. Ex. Comp. Frank K. Ebbitt gave notice of motion that Section 11 of the Constitution be amended by striking out the words—

“The Grand Superintendent of the Fifteenth or New Ontario District” where they appear therein, and inserting in lieu thereof the following words:

“The Grand Superintendent of the Fifteenth or Sudbury District.”

“The Grand Superintendent of the Sixteenth or New Ontario District,” and

“That the Fifteenth or Sudbury District shall consist of the following Chapters:—

No.	Name	Location
58	Pembroke	Mattawa
95	Tuscan	Sudbury
102	Algonquin	Sault Ste. Marie
103	St. John's	North Bay

and

That "The Sixteenth or New Ontario District shall consist of Chapters:

No.	Name	Location
169	.....Temiskaming	.....New Liskeard
203	.....Cobalt	.....Cobalt
213	.....Northern Lights	.....Timmins
223	.....Abitibi	.....Iroquois Falls
244	.....Cochrane	.....Cochrane

In so far as this notice of motion deals with the insertion of the words "The Grand Superintendent of the Sixteenth or New Ontario District, there is no legal objection to the motion going before Grand Chapter for consideration. The composition of the various Districts has never been made a part of the Constitution and does not appear therein. The Committee would suggest that the remaining part of the notice of motion be presented to Grand Chapter by way of a Resolution, which if approved by Grand Chapter will meet the object which R. Ex. Companion Frank K. Ebbitt has in view, instead of having same made part of the Constitution. If the former part of the notice of motion be approved by Grand Chapter, there is no reason why the Grand Chapter should not at its present Session entertain a resolution settling the composition of the two respective Districts.

Fraternally submitted,

E. T. MALONE,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. E. T. Malone, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on Constitution, Laws and Jurisprudence be received and adopted.

REPORT OF FRATERNAL DEAD

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Your Committee on the Fraternal Dead submit the following report:—

Let the principles and teachings of Capitular Masonry guide us for a few moments while we glance our eyes toward that “Beautiful Isle of Somewhere”—

There is a stream that we all must cross—
The river of human years;
Now lying calm in the summer's light
Now splashed with the rain of tears.
Out from the Hills of God it flows,
And on to the shoreless sea,
Where the noontide sun no shadow throws
And time is eternity.

God is the prophet of man's soul. His calculations are written in large figures. His Laws to the undiscerning are severe, yet they are manifestations of infinite love and care. He would have all roads leading into error stopped, and all roads leading into right made highways of easy finding and advancement.

While at this time we sit under the overhanging mystery of death, our hearts and minds are steadied by the sustaining hope that all who love righteousness and scorn everything mean; who trust in God and are considerate of their fellows; who give noble service to God, country and fellowmen, are not dead but living—living more gloriously than ever before. The Infinite Father accepts and approves their labours.

Companions, the noblest tribute we may offer to our Fraternal Dead is not to be found in the badge of mourning. Let us imitate their Faith in the Great Giver of Life; let us again dedicate ourselves to the excellent tenets, symbolized by the triangle and exemplify them in a practical way so that when the

time comes for us to cross the dark river we may be prepared to answer the summons with joy, and enter into that Heaven of Rest, where parting is no more.

M. Ex. Comp. John Elly Harding died in Hamilton at his residence, 131 Charles Street, Monday, March 16th, 1925. He was eighty-four years of age.

As a Symbolic Mason, M. Ex. Comp. J. E. Harding was initiated into Masonry in St. James Lodge, No. 73, St. Mary's, Ontario, and two years later was elected as its Worshipful Master. He was a Charter Member of St. Mary's Lodge, No. 351, St. Mary's (now defunct). He also joined Stratford Lodge, Stratford, and remained a member until his death, and was an Honourary Member of Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford, and of Faithful Brethren Lodge, Lindsay. He enjoyed the unique distinction of being a member of Grand Lodge for forty-five years. He was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1900, but owing to the death of Grand Master Hungerford, in 1901, he served for nearly a year as Grand Master for the unexpired term, and was elected Grand Master in 1902 and 1903, enjoying the further distinction of serving as Grand Master for nearly three years.

As a Capitular Mason, M. Ex. Comp. Harding became a member of Tecumseh Chapter, Stratford, on the 26th day of June, 1867, when he was advanced to the Mark Master Mason Degree, and he was exalted to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch on the 29th of April, 1868. He was a Charter Member of St. James Chapter, No. 46, St. Mary's, and the First Principal of this Chapter in the year 1871.

In the year 1872, he was appointed a Grand Steward, elected Grand Registrar on the 10th July, 1885, Grand Third Principal, 20th July, 1888, and re-elected 19th July, 1889. Elected Grand Second Principal on the 18th July, 1890, and re-elected 24th July, 1891. Was then elected Grand First Principal on the 22nd July, 1892, and re-elected on the 21st

July, 1893, being a member of the Grand Chapter for fifty-three years.

“Green be the turf above thee,
Friend of my better days!
None knew thee but to love thee,
None named thee but to praise.”

NOVA SCOTIA

Among those of our own country, distinguished in the Royal Craft, who passed into a higher service was M. Ex. Comp. Frederick Louis Shaffner, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia, died December 9th, 1925.

Fifty-eight years ago, Companion Shaffner was raised in Scotia Lodge, No. 28, Canning, on December 4th, 1868. He served the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia as District Deputy Grand Master for the years 1904 and 1905.

The Capitular degrees he received during his residence in the United States, presumably from a Chapter in Boston. An energetic and indefatigable worker in Chapter Masonry, he was one of the leading spirits in organizing the flourishing Chapter at Middleton Valley, No. 16, of which he was a Charter Member. Of this Chapter he was the first High Priest and continued to take an active interest in its efficiency until called hence. In the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia he was elected Grand King in 1914, and in 1915 received the honour of election as Grand High Priest, to the duties of which position he gave his usual careful attention. On June 7th, 1908, the Order of High Priesthood was conferred upon him.

Although Companion Shaffner was nearing the advanced age of seventy-nine years, he was still active in the service of his Church, and it was after an evening spent in prayer meeting, followed by a practise by the choir, of which he was leader, at Middleton, that on returning to his home, he fell

dead of heart failure, in the presence of his wife, while in the act of laying his books on the table.

"Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath;
And stars to set; but all—
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death!"

COMPANIONS HOLDING RANK IN GRAND CHAPTER WHO HAVE PASSED TO THEIR REWARD

R. Ex. Comp. H. E. W. Tamlyn, of Wingham, Grand Superintendent of Huron District, No. 6, in 1914, died January 18th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. Alexander Hector Watson, of Madoc, Grand Superintendent of Prince Edward District, No. 11, in 1916, died February 9th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. George T. Martin, of Smith's Falls, Grand Superintendent of Ottawa District, No. 13, in 1907, died March 4th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. George M. Aylesworth, of Collingwood, Grand Superintendent Georgian District, No. 9, in 1902, died April 14th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. Colin William Postlethwaite, of Toronto, Grand Superintendent Toronto District, No. 8, in 1888, died April 24th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. John J. McMahon, of Lindsay, Grand Superintendent of Ontario District, No. 10, in 1914, died April 27th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. Wm. Stark, of Milton, Grand Superintendent of Hamilton District, No. 5, in 1908, died August 14th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. Frank S. Lewis, Grand Superintendent of Georgian District, No. 9, in 1922, died August 30th, 1925.

R. Ex. Comp. David Barr, of Renfrew, Grand Superintendent of Ottawa District, No. 13, in 1898, died December 20th, 1925.

V. Ex. Comp. Sydney B. Sykes, of Toronto, Grand Senior Sojourner in 1909, died March 30th, 1925.

V. Ex. Comp. James T. Cameron, of Sault Ste Marie, Grand Organist in 1907, died June 25th, 1925.

V. Ex. Comp. John McCurrah, of Toronto, Grand Junior Sojourner in 1910, died August 23rd, 1925.

Their labours have ceased, but the memory of them
abideth with us.

“How brief this drama of life appears!
The good die not! This heritage they leave—
The record of a life in virtue spent;
For our own loss, at parting we may grieve—
Lives such as theirs build their own monument.”

AMERICAN JURISDICTIONS

During the past year the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States have lost by death, so we have been informed, the following prominent Companions:—

Arkansas—John Brodie, P.G. Treasurer.

Colorado—Ernest Leneve Foster, P.G.H.P.

Florida—Silas B. Wright, P.G.H.P.

Georgia—Jacob A. Walton, P.G.H.P.; James W. Taylor, P.G.H.P.

Illinois—Wilbur Clay Hadley, P.G.H.P.; Henry H. Montgomery, P.G.H.P.; Arthur E. Wood, P.G.H.P.; George W. Curtis, P.G.H.P.

Indiana—Thomas Riley Marshall, P.G.H.P.

Kansas—William Ingram Stuart, P.G.H.P.

Louisiana—Joseph Sinai, P.G.H.P.

Massachusetts—Charles Dana Burrage, P.G.H.P.; James Washington Taylor, P.G.H.P.

Minnesota—Andrew Peter Swanstrom, P.G.H.P.

Missouri—William Foreman Johnston, P.G.H.P.; Robert Freeman Stevenson, P.G.H.P.

Montana—Cornelius Hedges, Jr., G. Sec.

New Jersey—Peter McGill, P.G.H.P. and G. Sec.; Marcus Higginbotham, P.G.H.P.; Edgar Lincoln Brown, P.G.H.P.

New York—Arthur Warren, P.G.H.P.

North Dakota—Evarts C. Stevens, P.G.H.P.

Oregon—Albert Henry Steiner, P.G.H.P.; Milton Sherman Woodcock, P.G.H.P.

Pennsylvania—Carl A. Sundstrom, P.G.H.P.; A. G. Criswell Smith, P.G.H.P.

Virginia—Sol. Cutchins, P.G.H.P.

Washington—John Nathaniel Prather, P.G.H.P.

They were men and Companions. We are prone in the midst of our onrush to forget that man is the supreme creation of God. Man masters the great mountains with his tools; he tunnels under, bridges over and turns the water of rivers into arid places; he charts oceans into roadways of commerce and travel, and has even made the heavens a highway for transportation.

“To be a man, who can ask more,
In this great busy word-day war,
Of gaining not what life can give,
But more and more the right to live,
And from the battle and the gloom
Rise still a man in manhood's bloom?”

OUR PRAYER TO THE DEPARTED

To the Great Jehovah of the Universe, we as Companions of our departed dead now stand with unspeakable grief in our hearts. We can not question Thine infinite wisdom in removing from our companionship these noble men. May their labours, their devotion to the interest of human advancement be an inspiration to us. We pray that we may be strengthened by their victories and prevented by their mistakes. When we lay aside the implements of labour in our daily life take us in mercy to Thyself. So mote it be.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN SMITH,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on the Fraternal Dead be received and adopted.

PAYMENT OF TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Special Committee appointed to inquire whether any, and if any, what changes are advisable, and, if necessary, to devise a scheme of arrangements for these payments on an equitable basis, and to report at this Annual Convocation. The new regulations, if approved by Grand Chapter, to become effective at once.

The report of the Committee was:—

That the travelling expenses of Executive Committee attending Grand Chapter shall be at the rate of five cents per mile one way, and that a Special Form be prepared, showing the actual mileage travelled by the shortest route, the number of days spent in travelling to, and attending the Grand Chapter Convocation.

An allowance of six dollars per day to cover expenses computed on the following basis:—

250 miles and under an allowance of three days.

251 miles to 475 miles, inclusive, four days.

476 miles to 700 miles, inclusive, five days.

Over 700 miles the rate to be calculated by the Mileage and Per Diem Committee and to receive the approval of the Grand Z.

A. D. MACINTYRE, Chairman,

W. J. WADSWORTH,

G. C. KIRBY, Committee.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by V. Ex. Comp. A. D. MacIntyre, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Special Committee be received and adopted.

PRESQUE ISLE CHAPTER, BRIGHTON, TRANSFERRED
FROM ONTARIO DISTRICT, No. 10, TO PRINCE
EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 11

Presque Isle Chapter, No. 144, located at Brighton, made application to be transferred from Ontario District, No. 10, to Prince Edward District, No. 11. The Grand Superintendents for the year 1925 of the two Districts approved of the transfer. The matter came before the Executive Committee which appointed a Special Committee to consider the application and to report to Grand Chapter. Following is the report submitted:—

“We your Committee appointed to take into consideration the transfer of Presque Isle Chapter, No. 144, from District No. 10 to District No. 11, beg leave to say that having viewed the petition and all other correspondents relative thereto from all angles, and considering that it would be to all purposes a wise move in the interests of Capitular Masonry, would recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted.”

Signed.

R. H. SPENCER, Chairman,
H. J. MILNE,
W. J. POTTS, Committee.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer, and—

Resolved,—That the report be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE GRAND Z.'S ADDRESS

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal
Arch Masons of Canada:*

At the close of another year, it is most gratifying to the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, Officers and Members of Grand Chapter, to see so large an attendance of Companions gathered together, to greet each other in a spirit of true fellowship, to interest themselves in matters pertaining to the welfare of Grand Chapter, and by counsel and advice strengthen the hands of those who are called upon to direct and govern its affairs.

Your Committee, therefore, join with the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal in welcoming to this Annual Convocation all our Excellent Companions; and we express the hope that the business which is transacted here will be remembered by them and related to the Companions of their respective Chapters. Your Committee earnestly suggest, that a careful perusal be given Grand Chapter Proceedings, and that the First Principals will take an early opportunity of reading, and explaining to the members, the nature and extent of the various subjects discussed, and endeavour to apply them for the benefit of their Chapters.

We also join with the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, in welcoming our distinguished guests from other Jurisdictions in Canada, and the United States. They have travelled long distances to meet and greet us at this Grand Convocation. These visits have become one of the most pleasing and interesting social events of our Annual Convocations, and the exchange of views on matters of government in the several Jurisdictions, gives to all a broader vision. May their stay be profitable and pleasant.

The reports of special Committees, especially that on "Revision of the Ritual," are matters of

great importance, and will doubtless be received with the closest attention by the members of Grand Chapter.

Your Committee note with pleasure, the formation of three new Chapters, and the enthusiasm which prevails among the Companions. We congratulate the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal and Grand Chapter, on the successful efforts by the Companions in Northern Ontario. We agree with the views of the Grand First Principal, that too great a burden is placed on the Grand Superintendents of District No. 15, which requires him to travel long distances, occupying too large a portion of time, in order that he may perform the duties of his office, careful consideration should be given this subject by Grand Chapter.

Your Committee concur in the appointments of Grand Representatives as reported by the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal.

Your Committee concur in the recommendation of the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, "That a Special Committee be appointed to prepare a model set of By-laws for the guidance of subordinate Chapters.

Dispensations, Rulings and By-laws, have been given careful consideration by the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, and as they appear constitutional, your Committee concur.

Your Committee join with the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, in appreciation of the courtesies extended to this Grand Chapter by the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and also by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York.

The official visits among the Chapters of this Jurisdiction by the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal have been numerous, his reception by the Companions everywhere being of a loyal and enthusiastic character.

Your Committee note with pleasure the fraternal visits by the Most Excellent the Grand First Prin-

cipal, or his Representatives, to the Grand Jurisdictions of Quebec and the United States, where they were received and welcomed with the greatest cordiality.

Your Committee join with the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, in expressing deep sorrow at the passing of our beloved M. Ex. Comp. John E. Harding and the bereaved friends of many other Companions who have died during the past year. Also to the Grand Chapter of the State of Indiana, in the loss by death of M. Ex. Comp. Thomas Riley Marshall, to all the sorrowing relatives we extend our sincere sympathy.

We note the words of caution regarding the large expenditure on the Annual Proceedings as expressed by the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, and the majority of your Committee are of the opinion that curtailment is much to be desired.

On the whole, the years work gives us great cause for thankfulness. Peace reigns supreme, our finances are in a healthy condition, our investments are gilt edged, the office of the Grand Scribe E. is operated assiduously and is a credit to our Institution.

Your Committee heartily congratulates the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal, all Grand Chapter Officers and Companions of this Jurisdiction, who have by their loyalty and devotion, rendered possible the substantial position which the Grand Chapter of Canada occupies to-day.

Fraternally submitted,

GEORGE MOORE, Chairman
F. W. HARCOURT,
R. H. SPENCER,
W. N. PONTON, Committee

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. George Moore, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on the Grand Z.'s Address be received and adopted.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

The report on Fraternal Correspondence was presented by M. Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton. In the presentation of the report reference was made to the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Queensland. After a discussion, it was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the report on the Fraternal Correspondence be received, except that part referring to the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Queensland, which should be referred to the Executive Committee to be reported on at the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Body.

COMMITTEE ON BENEVOLENCE

R. Ex. Comp. J. B. Nixon's term as member of the Committee on Benevolence having expired, on motion of M. Ex. Comp. George Moore, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, it was resolved that R. Ex. Comp. J. B. Nixon be re-elected for a further term of three years.

The following Companions comprise the Committee on Benevolence, and are members of the Executive Committee of Grand Chapter for their respective terms:—

R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Price, retires in 1927.

M. “ “ F. W. Harcourt, retires in 1928.

R. “ “ J. B. Nixon, retires in 1929.

SCRUTINEERS OF THE BALLOT

The Grand Z. appointed the following Scrutineers of the Ballot, who were duly sworn in by M. Ex. Comp. George Moore:—R. Ex. Comps. D. S. L. MacDougall, Chairman; B. Cairns, W. J. Armstrong, V. Ex. Comp. James Herriot, Ex. Comps. T. G. Russell, H. A. Miller, J. E. Baker, W. W. Ash, Geo. Slack, A. B. Dalby, and W. H. Hoare.

The Grand Z. then called for nominations for the elective offices of Grand Chapter, and the next place of meeting.

CALLED OFF

Grand Chapter was called from labour at 4.35 o'clock p.m. to meet again at 10 o'clock a.m. the following day.

SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting was held at 8 o'clock in the evening in the Auditorium of the Yonge Street Masonic Temple. There was a large attendance of the Companions. R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, Chairman of the Special Committee on the revision of the Ritualistic Work, gave a brief outline of the proposed changes in each of the three degrees, viz.: Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and Holy Royal Arch, after which a degree team exemplified the Mark Master degree on a "dummy" candidate according to the proposed changes in the Ritualistic Work. R. Ex. Comp. J. Austin Evans was the presiding Worshipful Master, and he was ably assisted by several of the Past Z.'s of the Toronto Chapters. The meeting adjourned at 10.15 by the M. Ex. the Grand Z. All discussions as to proposed changes in the Ritualistic Work being laid over until Thursday morning, when Grand Chapter would again convene.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 1926

CALLED ON

Grand Chapter resumed labour at 10 o'clock a.m., the Grand Z., M. Ex. Comp. Walter H. Davis, on the Throne.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISION
OF RITUAL

*To the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal and
Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal
Arch Masons of Canada:*

The Committee appointed at the last Convocation to revise the ritual beg to report as follows:—

The members of the Committee have been fully impressed with the importance of the work committed to them, and have given it the most careful consideration in the hope that the result will be so satisfactory as to avoid the necessity or desirability of a further revision for a long period of time.

It is realized that any change in the old established ritual will cause inconvenience to those who are familiar with the old version, therefore changes, eliminations and additions should only be made when the advantage more than counter-balances this disadvantage.

The Committee did not feel warranted in making any radical change which would effect the Masonic Legend or materially change the present scheme.

Practically all additions have been taken from our own old version or from the English or other rituals.

Careful attention has been given to symbolic meaning.

Directions have been standardized and as far as possible made uniform throughout the three degrees.

In the Mark Master degree the sections have been reversed so that the candidate will receive his obligation shortly after entering the Lodge, as under the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England.

To needlessly embarrass a candidate is unmasonic and changes have been made to avoid this unpleasant feature in the present ritual.

Additions in this degree have been made which it is believed will more effectively impress upon the candidate the moral lessons of the degree.

By short explanatory passages an effort has been made to link up the various degrees in Craft and Capitular Masonry that the candidate may the more fully appreciate the connection of the whole and be impressed with the moral lessons inculcated in each step of his upward progress.

The revision has been submitted to the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal and has received his approval.

The Committee recommends its adoption as the ritual of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Fraternally submitted,

K. J. DUNSTAN, Chairman,
GEORGE MOORE,
AUSTIN EVANS,
W. HARVEY MCNAIRN.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. K. J. Dunstan, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee be received and adopted.

After a discussion, it was moved in amendment by R. Ex. Comp. R. J. Reade, a member of the Committee who did not sign the report, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. J. W. Hickson, and—

Resolved,—That the question of the revision of the Ritual be re-committed to the Committee for further consideration, and to be reported upon at the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter.

On the amendment and the original motion being put, the amendment was declared carried.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Fiscal Year of Constituent Chapters

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. Austin Evans, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the Constitution be amended by deleting Section No. 220, and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

"The fiscal year of every constituent Chapter shall close on the 30th November. Immediately following such date, the books and accounts of the Chapter shall be audited by the Auditors who shall report such audit to the Chapters on the day appointed for the installation and investiture of the officers, and prior to such installation."

and

That in the second line of Section 141, the words "December 31st" be deleted and the words "November 30th" be substituted in lieu thereof.

A NEW DISTRICT

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. Frank K. Ebbitt, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. M. E. Sherwood, and—

Resolved,—That Section 11 of the Constitution be amended to read after the words "The Grand Superintendent of the Fifteenth or New Ontario District," by adding the words, "The Grand Superintendent of the Sixteenth or Temiskaming District."

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. Frank K. Ebbitt, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. M. E. Sherwood, and further—

Resolved,—That the Fifteenth or New Ontario District shall consist of the following Chapters:—

No.	Name	Location
58	Pembroke	Mattawa
95	Tuscan	Sudbury
102	Algonquin	Sault Ste. Marie
103	St. John's	North Bay

and

That "The Sixteenth or Temiskaming District shall consist of the following Chapters:—

No.	Name	Location
169	Temiskaming	New Liskeard
203	Cobalt	Cobalt
213	Northern Lights	Timmins
223	Abitibi	Iroquois Falls.
244	Cochrane	Cochrane

AS TO ANNUAL ELECTION OF GRAND SCRIBE E.

The motion to amend Section 39 of the Constitution as to removing from the Annual Election of

Officers the Office of Grand Scribe E., owing to the absence of M. Ex. Comp. F. W. Harcourt, was not submitted, and so consequently lapsed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of Grand Officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows:—

M. Ex. Comp.	Kenneth J. Dunstan,	Toronto	Grand Z.	} Grand Council
R. " "	Edwin Smith,	London.....	Grand H.	
R. " "	Walter G. Price,	Port Credit	Grand J.	
M. " "	George Moore,	Hamilton	Grand Treasurer	
R. " "	Henry T. Smith,	Toronto	Grand Scribe E.	
R. " "	W. J. Tow,	Toronto.....	Grand Scribe N.	
R. " "	Thomas J. Mac-	Keown, Toronto	Grand Principal Sojourner	
R. " "	Thomas H. Hayhurst,	Hamilton	Grand Registrar	
M. " "	W. N. Ponton,	Belle-ville	Grand Historian	
	W. H. Sproule,	Ottawa	Grand Janitor	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTED

The following Companions were elected by Grand Chapter as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:—

R. Ex. Comp.	A. Cowan	Barrie
R. " "	Oliver Ellwood	London
R. " "	A. W. Grant	Ottawa
R. " "	M. E. Sherwood	Woodstock
R. " "	W. Y. Mills	Kingston

OTTAWA NEXT PLACE OF MEETING

The Cities of Ottawa and Toronto having been nominated for the next Annual Convocation in the month of February, 1927, and being put to the ballot the result showed Ottawa had received the highest number of votes, and that City was declared to be the choice of Grand Chapter.

HISTORIAN ELECTED

On motion of R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Walter G. Price, M. Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton was re-elected Grand Historian for the ensuing year.

THANKS TO CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. H. H. Lang, seconded by Ex. Comp. Morgan Griffith, and—

Resolved,—That this Grand Body tender to the Credential Committee its thanks for the capable manner in which the several members of the Committee discharged the duties allotted to them.

SCRUTINEERS RECEIVE THANKS

It was moved by M. Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That the thanks of this Grand Body be tendered to R. Ex. Comp. D. S. L. MacDougall, and the other Excellent Companions who acted as Scrutineers for services so ably rendered in the election of the officers of Grand Chapter.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO TORONTO COMPANIONS

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. T. L. Cochrane, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. Alex Cowan, and—

Resolved,—That the thanks of this Grand Body be tendered to the Principals' Association and the Toronto Chapters for courtesies extended; to the Directors of the Masonic Temple Corporation, Limited, for the use of the rooms, and Ex. Comp. George Slack, President of the Principals' Association of Toronto, and other Companions, who so kindly looked after many of the arrangements for the reception of the delegates and distinguished visitors in attendance at this Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter.

OFFICERS INSTALLED

M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer, assisted by M. Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton and several of the distinguished visitors from sister Jurisdictions, then proceeded with the Installation and Investiture of the newly-

elected officers of Grand Chapter, including the Grand Superintendents of the several Districts, and they were proclaimed and saluted according to ancient custom.

INSTALLING BOARD THANKED

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Price, and—

Resolved,—That this Grand Chapter tender its thanks to M. Ex. Comp. R. H. Spencer, and those who assisted him, for the able manner in which the Ceremony of Installation had been performed.

TESTIMONIAL TO RETIRING GRAND Z.

It was moved by M. Ex. Comp. George Moore, seconded by Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, and—

Resolved,—That a Committee consisting of M. Ex. Comps. K. J. Dunstan, Chairman; F. W. Harcourt, George Moore, and R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith be appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. Ex. Comp. W. H. Davis, in recognition of his devoted services to the Royal Craft during his term of office as Grand Z.

APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE

The following appointments by the M. Ex. the Grand Z. were subsequently announced:—

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—APPOINTED

R. Ex. Comp.	C. W. Haentschel	Haileybury
R. “ “	George L. Gardiner	Toronto
V. “ “	A. D. MacIntyre	Ayr
R. “ “	C. H. C. Wright	Toronto
R. “ “	J. McC. Potts	Stirling

ASSISTANT OFFICERS

R. Ex. Comp.	J. B. Nixon, Toronto	Grand Lecturer
V. “ “	Albert E. Somerville,	
	Lambeth	Grand Senior Sojourner
“ “ “	James A. Orr, Sud-	
	bury	Grand Junior Sojourner
“ “ “	Joseph Madden, Tor-	
	onto	Grand Sword Bearer
“ “ “	Charles Ed. Kitchen,	
	Brantford	Grand Master 1st Veil

V. Ex. Comp.	William A. Stephen-	son, Hamilton	.....	Grand Master 2nd Veil
" " "	Robert E. Port,	Tor-	onto	.....Grand Master 3rd Veil
" " "	Horace E. Ruwald,	Iroquois Falls	.....	Grand Master 4th Veil
" " "	Charles E. Watkins,	Fort William	.....	Grand Standard Bearer
" " "	Percy W. Rogers,	To-	ronto	.....Grand Dir. of Ceremonies
" " "	Stewart Witten,	Ottawa	.....	Grand Pursuivant
" " "	Conrad J. Brunke,	Kingston	.....	Grand Organist
" " "	John F. Thorpe,	Wel-	land	.....Grand Steward
" " "	W. L. Shillington,	Blenheim	.....	Grand Steward
" " "	Wm. C. Fryer,	Brace-	bridge	.....Grand Steward
" " "	Ed. T. Lewis,	Strath-	roy	.....Grand Steward
" " "	Geo. Dulmage,	Belle-	ville	.....Grand Steward
" " "	E. D. McClocklin,	Durham	.....	Grand Steward
" " "	Robert W. Groves,	Lindsay	.....	Grand Steward
" " "	Robert Patterson,	Kin-	cardine	.....Grand Steward
" " "	W. R. McQuade,	Aurora	.....	Grand Steward
" " "	W. R. Kelly,	Smith-	ville	.....Grand Steward

The labours of the Convocation being ended, Grand Chapter was closed in Ample Form at 1.30 o'clock p.m., Toronto, Thursday, February 25th, 1926.



Henry J. Smith,

Grand Scribe E.

GRAND CHAPTER BANQUET

At the conclusion of the Proceedings of Grand Chapter, on Wednesday afternoon the newly elected Grand Superintendents were instructed in the duties of their Office. The Grand Chapter Officers subsequently with their invited guests from the States of New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, the Grand Chapter of Quebec, the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, the Sovereign Great Priory of Knights Templar of Canada, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Canada, and others with the newly-elected Grand Superintendents dined together at the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, with M. Ex. Comp. W. H. Davis, the Grand Z., presiding.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith, London, Grand H., President.

BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE

M. Ex. Comp.	Michael Walsh	.....	Ingersoll
M. " "	George Moore	.....	Hamilton
M. " "	F. W. Harcourt	.....	Toronto
M. " "	A. S. Gorrell	.....	Regina
M. " "	W. N. Ponton	.....	Belleville
M. " "	R. H. Spencer	.....	Trenton
M. " "	W. H. Davis	.....	Hamilton
M. " "	K. J. Dunstan, Grand Z.	.....	Toronto
M. " "	Harry H. Watson	.....	Vancouver
M. " "	E. T. Malone	.....	Toronto
M. " "	John M. Gibson	.....	Hamilton
R. " "	Walter G. Price, Grand J.	.....	Port Credit

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS

R. Ex. Comp.	Harry Campbell, Ridge-		
	town	.....	St. Clair
			Dist. No. 1
" " "	Henry E. Livermore,		
	London	.....	London
			" 2
" " "	Bernard C. Brown,		
	Paris	.....	Wilson
			" 3
" " "	Henry Corke, George-		
	town	.....	Wellington
			" 4

R. Ex. Comp.	Paul E. Lumsdon,		
	Hamilton	Hamilton	5
" "	F r e d Porterfield,		
	Mitchell	Huron	6
" "	John Herod, Thorold	Niagara	7
" "	Wm. H. Roberts, Tor-		
	onto	Toronto East	8
" "	P. K. Perry, Toronto	Toronto West	8a
" "	Thomas C. Luke, Mid-		
	land	Georgian	9
" "	Albert E. Challis, Co-		
	bourg	Ontario	10
" "	Charles A. Walters,		
	Napanee	Prince Edward	11
" "	Frederick W. Elliott,		
	Prescott	St. Lawrence	12
" "	Fred C. Avery, Perth	Ottawa	13
" "	M. Barrett, Rainy		
	River	Algoma	14
" "	John B. Way, Sault Ste.		
	Marie	New Ontario	15
" "	George C. Murphy,		
	Schumacher	Temiskaming	16
" "	Charles I. Tennant,		
	Dawson	Yukon Territory	

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

R. Ex. Comp.	Henry T. Smith, Toronto	Grand Scribe E.
" "	W. J. Tow, Toronto	Grand Scribe N.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—ELECTED.

R. Ex. Comp.	A. Cowan	Barrie
R. "	Oliver Ellwood	London
R. "	A. W. Grant	Ottawa
R. "	M. E. Sherwood	Woodstock
R. "	W. Y. Mills	Kingston

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—APPOINTED.

R. Ex. Comp.	C. W. Haentschel	Haileybury
R. "	George L. Gardiner	Toronto
V. "	A. D. MacIntyre	Ayr
R. "	C. H. C. Wright	Toronto
R. "	J. McC. Potts	Stirling

SUB-COMMITTEES

GRAND Z.'S ADDRESS

M. Ex. Comps. George Moore (Chairman), M. Walsh, F. W. Harcourt, A. S. Gorrell, W. N. Ponton, R. H. Spencer, W. H. Davis, Harry H. Watson, E. T. Malone, John M. Gibson.

BENEVOLENCE

M. Ex. Comp. F. W. Harcourt (Chairman), R. Ex. Comps. J. B. Nixon, Walter G. Price.

AUDIT AND FINANCE

R. Ex. Comps. O. Ellwood (Chairman), M. E. Sherwood, H. E. Livermore, H. Corke, F. C. Avery, F. W. Elliott.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

R. Ex. Comps. A. Cowan (Chairman), Fred Porterfield, John Herod, G. C. Murphy, A. W. Grant.

WARRANTS

R. Ex. Comps. J. McC. Potts (Chairman), W. J. Tow, C. A. Walters, T. C. Luke.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY

R. Ex. Comps. George L. Gardiner (Chairman), W. Y. Mills, M. Barrett, A. E. Challis, J. B. Way.

CONSTITUTION, LAWS AND JURISPRUDENCE

M. Ex. Comps. E. T. Malone (Chairman), F. W. Harcourt, John M. Gibson.

FRATERNAL DEAD

R. Ex. Comps. C. H. C. Wright (Chairman), H. Campbell, B. C. Brown, Paul E. Lumsdon.

PRINTING COMMITTEE

R. Ex. Comps. Henry T. Smith (Chairman), P. K. Perry, W. H. Roberts.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

R. Ex. Comps. C. W. Haentschel (Chairman), A. G. Horwood, B. Cairns, W. J. Armstrong, D. S. L. MacDougall.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

M .Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton (Chairman).

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM

V. Ex. Comp. A. D. MacIntyre (Chairman), R. Ex. Comp.
W. J. Wadsworth, Ex. Comp. G. C. Kirby.

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 1

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Harry Campbell, Ridgetown.

No.		No.	
47.	Wellington.....Chatham	119.	King Cyrus.....Leamington
71.	Pr. of Wales.....Amherstburg	153.	Sombra.....Wallaceburg
73.	Erie.....Ridgetown	164.	Lorne.....West Lorne
80.	Ark.....Windsor	239.	Blenheim.....Blenheim
88.	MacNabb.....Dresden		

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 2

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Henry E. Livermore,
London.

No.		No.	
3.	St. John's.....London	78.	Minnewawa.....Parkhill
5.	St. George's.....London	81.	Aylmer.....Aylmer
15.	Wawanosh.....Sarnia	150.	London.....London
53.	Bruce.....Petrolia	214.	Vimy.....Inwood
54.	Palestine.....St. Thomas	238.	St. Andrew.....London
74.	Beaver.....Strathroy	242.	St. Paul's.....Lambeth
		247.	Nilestown.....Nilestown

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 3

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Bernard C. Brown, Paris.

No.		No.	
18.	Oxford.....Woodstock	41.	Harris.....Ingersoll
20.	Mount Horeb.....Brantford	115.	Brant.....Paris
23.	Ezra.....Simcoe		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 4

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Henry Corke, Georgetown.

No.		No.	
32.	Waterloo.....Galt	117.	Kitchener.....Kitchener
40.	Guelph.....Guelph	218.	Prince Edward.....Shelburne
67.	Enterprise.....Palmerston	221.	Durham.....Durham
83.	Ionic.....Orangeville	234.	Halton.....Georgetown
		245.	Preston.....Preston

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HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 5

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Paul E. Lumsdon, Hamilton.

No.		No.	
2.	The Hiram.....Hamilton	155.	Ancaster.....Ancaster
6.	St. John's.....Hamilton	175.	The Hamilton.....Hamilton
75.	St. Clair.....Milton	224.	Keystone.....Hamilton
104.	White Oak.....Oakville	236.	Caledonia.....Caledonia
		243.	McKay.....Stoney Creek

HURON DISTRICT, NO. 6

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Fred Porterfield, Mitchell.

No.		No.	
24.	Tecumseh.....Stratford	84.	Lebanon.....Wingham
30.	Huron.....Goderich	129.	Elliot.....Mitchell
46.	St. James.....St. Marys	130.	Chantry.....Southampton
63.	Havelock.....Kincardine	146.	Bernard.....Listowel
66.	The Malloch.....Seaforth	147.	Lucknow.....Lucknow

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 7

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. John Herod, Thorold.

No.		No.	
19.	Mt. Moriah ..St. Catharines	64.	Willson.....Welland
29.	McCallum.....Dunnville	69.	Grimsby.....Grimsby
55.	Niagara.....Niagara	76.	Mt. Nebo.....Niagara Falls
57.	King Hiram.....Pt. Colborne	184.	Hugh Murray ..Bridgeburg
		240.	Smithville.....Smithville

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT, NO. 8

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Wm. H. Roberts, Toronto.

No.		No.	
4.	St. Andrew and St. John.....Toronto	135.	Succoth.....Uxbridge
8.	King Solomon's.....Toronto	145.	The St. Patrick.....Toronto
60.	Doric.....Newmarket	163.	The Beaches.....Toronto
62.	York.....Toronto	205.	Victoria.....Thornhill
65.	St. Paul's.....Toronto	217.	St. Alban's.....Toronto
79.	Orient.....Toronto	225.	Beaver.....Toronto
		235.	Aurora.....Aurora
		241.	University.....Toronto

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT, NO. 8A

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. P. K. Perry, Toronto.

No.		No.	
77.	Occident.....Toronto	219.	Ulster.....Toronto
91.	Antiquity.....Toronto	220.	Lebanon.....Lambton Mills
138.	Shekinah.....Toronto	230.	Port Credit .....Port Credit
185.	Toronto.....Toronto	231.	St. Clair.....Toronto
195.	Peel.....Brampton	232.	King Cyrus.....Toronto
212.	Mount Sinai.....Toronto	233.	Oakwood.....Toronto
215.	Mimico.....Mimico	246.	Humber .....Weston

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Thomas C. Luke, Midland.

No.		No.	
27.	Manitou.....Collingwood	86.	Macpherson.....Meaford
34.	Signet.....Barrie	131.	Amabel.....Wiarton
56.	Georgian.....Owen Sound	167.	Kichikewana.....Midland
70.	Grand River ....Bracebridge	198.	Couchiching.....Orillia

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 10

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Albert E. Challis, Cobourg.

No.		No.	
28.	Pentalpha.....Oshawa	94.	Midland.....Lindsay
35.	Keystone.....Whitby	110.	Warkworth.....Warkworth
36.	Corinthian .....Peterboro'	134.	King Darius ....Cannington
37.	Victoria.....Port Hope	139.	St. Andrew's ....Havelock
45.	Excelsior.....Colborne	168.	Ionic.....Campbellford
48.	St. John's.....Cobourg		

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 11

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Charles A. Walters, Napanee.

No.		No.	
7.	The Moira.....Belleville	72.	Keystone.....Stirling
26.	St. Mark's.....Trenton	144.	Presque Isle.....Brighton
31.	Prince Edward.....Picton	161.	Madoc.....Madoc
44.	Mount Sinai.....Napanee	227.	Quinte Friendship Belleville

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ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 12

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Frederick W. Elliott, Prescott

No.		No.	
1.	Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui.....Kingston	100.	St. Lawrence.....Brockville
22.	Grenville.....Prescott	112.	St. John's.....Morrisburg
59.	Sussex.....Brockville	113.	Covenant.....Cornwall
68.	Maitland.....N. Augusta	132.	Leeds.....Gananoque

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 13

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. Fred C. Avery, Perth.

No.		No.	
16.	Carleton.....Ottawa	148.	St. John's.....Vankleek Hill
61.	Granite.....Almonte	151.	Laurentian.....Pembroke
114.	Bonnechere.....Renfrew	210.	Kitchener.....Russell
116.	Maple.....Carleton Pl.	222.	Ottawa.....Ottawa
133.	St. Francis.....Smith's Falls	226.	Prince of Wales.....Perth
143.	Glengarry.....Maxville		

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 14

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. M. Barrett, Rainy River.

No.		No.	
82.	Shuniah.....Port Arthur	149.	Atwood.....Rainy River
90.	Golden.....Kenora	152.	Alberton.....Ft. Francis
140.	Ft. William.....Ft. William		

NEW ONTARIO DISTRICT NO. 15

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. John B. Way, Sault Ste. Marie.

No.		No.	
58.	Pembroke.....Mattawa	102.	Algonquin, Sault Ste. Marie
95.	Tuscan.....Sudbury	103.	St. John's.....North Bay

TEMISKAMING DISTRICT, NO. 16

Grand Superintendent—R. Ex. Comp. George C. Murphy,
Schumacher.

No.		No.	
169.	Temiskaming..... New Liskeard	213.	Northern Lights.....Timmins
203.	Cobalt.....Cobalt	223.	Abitibi.....Iroquois Falls
		244.	Cochrane.....Cochrane

UNATTACHED

Acting Grand Superintendent—Ex. Comp. Chas. I. Tennant,
Dawson City, Y.T.

No. 154.	Klondike.....	Dawson, Y.T.
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CHAPTER RETURNS

No.	Name of Chapter	Where Held	Regular Convocation
1	Anct. Frontenac and Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....	Third Friday.....
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	Fourth Friday.....
3	St. John's.....	London.....	Fourth Wednesday.....
4	St. And. and St. John	Toronto.....	Third Friday.....
5	St. George's.....	London.....	Fourth Friday.....
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	Second Thursday.....
7	The Moira.....	Belleville.....	First Tuesday.....
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	Fourth Thursday.....
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	Second Friday.....
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	Third Wednesday.....
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	Third Friday.....
19	Mt. Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	Second Friday.....
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	First Friday.....
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	Second Tuesday.....
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	Thursday af. f. m.....
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	Fourth Friday.....
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	Third Tuesday.....
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	Fourth Friday.....
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	First Tuesday.....
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	Third Friday.....
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	Third Tuesday.....
31	Prince Edward.....	Picton.....	Monday on or af. f. m.....
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	Second Monday.....
34	Signal.....	Barrie.....	Second Tuesday.....
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	Third Friday.....
36	Corinthian.....	Peterborough.....	Fourth Friday.....
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	Second Friday.....
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	Second Friday.....
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	Second Friday.....
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	Wednesday af. f. m.....
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	First Tuesday.....
46	St. James.....	St. Mary's.....	Second Monday.....
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	Second Thursday.....
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	Fourth Tuesday.....
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	Third Wednesday.....
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.....	Second Thursday.....
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	First Friday af. f. m.....
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	Third Tuesday.....
57	King Hiram.....	Port Colborne.....	First Thursday.....
58	Pembroke.....	Mattawa.....	Third Tuesday.....
59	Sussex.....	Brockville.....	Second Wednesday.....
60	Doric.....	Newmarket.....	First Wednesday.....
61	Granite.....	Almonte.....	Second Thursday.....
62	York.....	Toronto.....	First Friday.....
63	Havelock.....	Kincardine.....	Third Friday.....
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	Last Wednesday.....
65	St. Paul's.....	Toronto.....	Second Wednesday.....
66	The Malloch.....	Seaforth.....	Third Monday.....
67	Enterprise.....	Palmerston.....	First Monday.....
68	Maitland.....	N. Augusta.....	First Monday.....
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	First Monday.....
70	Grand River.....	Bracebridge.....	Third Thursday.....
71	Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg.....	First Friday.....
72	Keystone.....	Stirling.....	Second Monday b. f. m.....
73	Erie.....	Ridgetown.....	Monday af. f. m.....
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	First Monday.....
75	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	Thursday af. f. m.....
76	Mount Nebo.....	Niagara Falls.....	Third Friday.....
77	Occident.....	Toronto.....	Second Friday.....
78	Minnewawa.....	Parkhill.....	First Wednesday af. f. m.....
79	Orient.....	Toronto.....	Second Thursday.....
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....	First Monday.....
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	First Friday.....
82	Shuniah.....	Port Arthur.....	Third Wednesday.....
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.....	Tuesday af. f. m.....

CHAPTER RETURNS TO 31st DECEMBER, 1925

Chapter No.	First Principal Z. for the Year 1926	Scribe E. for the Year 1926	Members 31st Dec., 1924	Admission	Joinings	Restorations	Withdrawals	Suspensions	Deaths	Members 31st Dec., 1925	Increase	Decrease
1	F. G. Moxley	R. S. Graham	389	14	2	1	4	8	3	391	2	
2	Marvin W. Angle	D. R. Gibson	593	6	1	1	5	29	4	563		30
3	Sam. McCoy	O. Ellwood	425	3		3	2	7	3	419		6
4	G. G. Sheppard	L. G. Jackson	335	29	4			3	3	362	27	
5	Robt. Pearse	T. P. Elliott	473	5			1	8	8	469		4
6	Leslie A. Shaver	George H. Britton	561	5			4	6	6	556		5
7	W. W. Anderson	C. B. Scantlebury	324	16			5	8	3	324		
8	Andrew Crawford	Stanley G. Tinker	396	12	2		6	15	3	386		10
15	C. H. Hughes	W. W. Simpson	379	14	1	1	3	4	4	388	9	
16	H. A. McCallum	A. W. Grant	373	5			11	2	1	364		9
18	R. A. Marsh	R. Y. Morrison	202	10	1		1	1	1	211	9	
19	N. B. McPhee	A. N. Lindsay	300	8	2			6	3	301	1	
20	Ernest E. Franklin	F. S. Blain	278	8		1	1	6	1	279	1	
22	J. E. Williams	C. M. Scobie	118	6			1	1	3	119	1	
23	D. F. Aiken	S. C. Krompart	167	1					2	166		1
24	D. Davidson	J. Stevenson	287	9	2		6	2	2	290	3	
26	A. W. Kinnear	M. W. Andison	173	16	2	2	1	1	4	187	14	
27	E. Walker	W. H. Whipps	179	5				4	4	180	1	
28	N. W. Purdy	S. J. Babe	173	6			1	2	2	174	1	
29	Wm. H. Harvey	J. E. Yocom	113	2	1			2	1	114	1	
30	George McVicar	H. C. Dunlop	139	12				4	4	147	8	
31	James Wright	J. L. Graydon	190	3			4	5	3	181		9
32	R. C. Glennie	James Ritchie	174	2			8	3	5	160		14
34	W. A. W. Stewart	J. W. Merrick	230	19		1				250	20	
35	Sidney J. Spall	William M. Jermyn	126	4	1		1	3	1	126		
36	W. D. Campbell	T. H. Gillespie	253	12				3	1	261	8	
37	W. F. McMahon	J. W. Sanders	177	7	1	1		1	1	185	8	
40	C. T. Palmer	W. F. Drone	254	15	2		3	7	1	260	6	
41	A. S. Crawford	J. W. Manzer	96	7				11	1	91		5
44	Wm. J. Wilde	Ernest J. Walters	146	1					1	146		
45	H. S. Keyes	J. T. Gordon	64	3				9	1	57		7
46	T. Hunter	L. A. Ball	103	1			3	2	2	99		4
47	Leonard H. Holmes	J. G. Martin	315	12			1	4	2	320	5	
48	H. C. Higginbotham	C. R. Gummow	100	6				5	1	100		
53	J. C. Reid	J. E. Wismer	120	9				5	3	121	1	
54	Robt. Simpson	H. Mortin	390	22			1	2	4	405	15	
55	George E. Corus	Charles A. Hall	82	1		1				84	2	
56	R. J. Archer	George E. Atbey	175				5	3	3	167		8
57	C. G. Carter	L. Smith	77	7						84	7	
58	W. J. Jardine	J. D. MacDonald	54					4	1	49		5
59	W. J. Clements	A. L. Stein	238	5	2		1	4	4	240	2	
60	A. B. Gardiner	J. G. Muir	82	3	1		2	15		69		13
61	N. Washburn	E. J. Lee	61	1						62	1	
62	A. B. Dalby	W. E. Hofland	197	9			3	2	2	201	4	
63	Peter McCallum	Earl Hall	86	3		2	1	2	2	88	2	
64	R. MacIloride	George Wells	204	4	1			4	1	204		
65	Morgan R. Griffiths	M. S. Gooderham	232	9			1	5	5	235	3	
66	A. D. Sutherland	A. M. Barton	70	2			1	2	3	66		4
66	John Youngson	Jacob Corbitt	120	3	1	1	5	2	3	115		5
68	Harry L. Hill	Wm. W. Bobier	47	3		1		2	2	49	2	
69	John E. Scott	W. F. Randall	146	7	2		11	1	5	138		8
70	Fred Morris	F. P. Warne	90	4				2	2	92	2	
71	Edwin H. Pearce	H. H. Courtney	136	4				4	1	135		1
72	John N. West	James McC. Potts	103	7		1	1	1	1	109	6	
73	P. L. Clark	Thomas E. Armstrong	143	9			1	7	1	143		
74	Gladstone Mills	R. M. Trueman	102	8		1	1			110	8	
75	E. B. Graham	Wm. Pantom	95	8			6	3	1	93		2
76	C. H. Sheppard	F. W. Swannell	271	2			1	4		268		3
77	Harry Parker	S. G. Swendick	733	12	3		12	13	5	718		15
78	George Portice	J. H. Young	142	3	1		2	1	1	143	1	
79	Chas. H. G. Fletcher	D. S. L. MacDougall	346	8	1		10	11	2	332		14
80	Edgar A. McCubbin	P. J. McConnell	582	35	2		2	15	2	600	18	
81	L. H. Grandy	Wm. Stevenson	107	3			1	1	1	108	1	
82	Harold Stanworth	T. J. C. Rodden	318	16	2		2	14	5	315		3
83	Jack M. Aiken	Alex. W. McGillivray	97	8		1	3	2	2	101	4	

CHAPTER RETURNS

No.	Name of Chapter	Where Held	Regular Convocation
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham.....	Third Tuesday.....
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford.....	Third Thursday.....
88	MacNabb.....	Dresden.....	Wednesday af. f. m.....
90	Golden.....	Kenora.....	Third Friday.....
91	Antiquity.....	Toronto.....	Fourth Wednesday.....
94	Midland.....	Lindsay.....	Third Thursday.....
95	Tuscan.....	Sudbury.....	Second Tuesday.....
100	St. Lawrence.....	Brockville.....	First Thursday.....
102	Algonquin.....	Sault Ste. Marie.....	Third Friday.....
103	St. John's.....	North Bay.....	First Thursday.....
104	White Oak.....	Oakville.....	Third Tuesday.....
110	Warkworth.....	Warkworth.....	Monday after First Wed.....
112	St. John's.....	Morrisburg.....	Third Friday.....
113	Covenant.....	Cornwall.....	Third Wednesday.....
114	Bonnechere.....	Renfrew.....	Third Monday.....
115	Brant.....	Paris.....	Third Monday.....
116	Maple.....	Carleton Place.....	First Friday.....
117	Kitchener.....	Kitchener.....	Third Friday.....
119	King Cyrus.....	Leamington.....	Monday af. f. m.....
129	Elliot.....	Mitchell.....	Second Tuesday af. f. m.....
130	Chantry.....	Southampton.....	Tuesday b. f. m.....
131	Amabel.....	Warton.....	First Thursday.....
132	Leeds.....	Gananoque.....	First Wednesday.....
133	St. Francis.....	Smith's Falls.....	Second Friday af. f. m.....
134	King Darius.....	Cannington.....	Wednesday af. f. m.....
135	Succoth.....	Uxbridge.....	Second Thursday.....
138	Shekinah.....	Toronto.....	Second Tuesday.....
139	St. Andrew's.....	Havelock.....	Monday af. f. m.....
140	Fort William.....	Fort William.....	First Friday.....
143	Glengarry.....	Maxville.....	Fourth Friday.....
144	Presque Isle.....	Brighton.....	Third Tuesday.....
145	The St. Patrick.....	Toronto.....	Third Saturday.....
146	Bernard.....	Listowel.....	Friday af. f. m.....
147	Lucknow.....	Lucknow.....	Tuesday af. f. m.....
148	St. John's.....	Vankleek Hill.....	First Friday.....
149	Atwood.....	Rainy River.....	Third Thursday.....
150	London.....	London.....	Third Tuesday.....
151	Laurentian.....	Pembroke.....	Third Thursday.....
152	Alberton.....	Fort Frances.....	Second Tuesday.....
153	Sombra.....	Wallaceburg.....	Second Tuesday.....
154	Klondike.....	Dawson.....	Third Thursday.....
155	Ancaster.....	Ancaster.....	Tuesday af. f. m.....
161	Madoc.....	Madoc.....	Tuesday af. f. m.....
163	The Beaches.....	Toronto.....	First Monday.....
164	Lorne.....	West Lorne.....	Wednesday af. f. m.....
167	Kichikewana.....	Midland.....	Fourth Friday.....
168	Ionic.....	Campbellford.....	Second Tuesday.....
169	Temiskaming.....	New Liskeard.....	First Wednesday.....
175	The Hamilton.....	Hamilton.....	Third Tuesday.....
184	Hugh Murray.....	Bridgeburg.....	Second Tuesday.....
185	Toronto.....	Toronto.....	Third Monday.....
195	Peel.....	Brampton.....	First Tuesday.....
198	Couchiching.....	Orillia.....	Second Friday.....
203	Cobalt.....	Cobalt.....	Third Tuesday.....
205	Victoria.....	Thornhill.....	Second Wednesday.....
210	Kitchener.....	Russell.....	First Friday.....
212	Mount Sinai.....	Toronto.....	First Tuesday.....
213	Northern Lights.....	Timmins.....	Third Wednesday.....
214	Vimy.....	Inwood.....	Monday af. f. m.....
215	Mimico.....	Mimico.....	First Wednesday.....
217	St. Alban's.....	Toronto.....	Fourth Tuesday.....
218	Prince Edward.....	Shelburne.....	Third Friday.....
219	Ulster.....	Toronto.....	First Thursday.....
220	Lebanon.....	Lambton Mills.....	Fourth Thursday.....

CHAPTER RETURNS TO 31st DECEMBER, 1925

Chapter No.	First Principal Z. for the Year 1926	Scribe E. for the Year 1926	Members 31st Dec., 1924.	Admission	Joinings	Restorations	Withdrawals	Suspensions	Deaths	Members 31st Dec., 1925	Increase	Decrease
84	Jno. J. McGee	E. J. Nash	156	2			1	2	2	133		3
86	A. M. Pilgrim	F. H. Finley	77	12			1		1	77		
88	William Foster	John French	84	7			1	3	1	86	2	
90	J. Allan	W. L. Macdonald	180	4	1		1		1	183	3	
91	W. F. Bowerman	H. G. Brown	533	15			8	44	3	493		40
94	R. C. Nugent	Chas. L. Davidson	176	6	1	2	3		4	178	2	
95	Lisle E. Mills	Jas. A. Orr	204	10			1			213	9	
100	A. D. Currie	Geo. W. Morrison	183	5				2	1	185	2	
102	L. E. Edmonds	W. J. W. Johnston	338	4		2	6	1	6	331		7
103	G. B. Alford	B. F. Nott	154	3			3	3		151		3
104	F. W. Beasley	F. J. MacCallum	87	2			4		1	84		3
110	James F. Freure	S. N. Oliver	57	1						58	1	
112	R. H. Ashton	Will C. Davy	96	1			1			96		
113	D. L. Bailey	J. Ridley	172	12			1		1	182	10	
114	J. E. Colson	H. J. Smith	95	8				2		101	6	
115	Bert Stobbs	A. H. Monteith	126	13	2		2		2	137	11	
116	H. E. Sinclair Jr.	D. H. McIntosh	115	8			1	1	1	120	5	
117	Wm. Roy Cooper	Wm. Downing	183	7	2		2	2		188	5	
119	S. Gunn	A. T. Bristow	157	5					1	161	4	
129	W. A. Stuart	Wm. Babb	67			1	1			67		
130	Roy Trelford	R. B. Hillmer	65	2		2		5		64		1
131	J. F. Rock	S. E. Foster	55	3			3			55		
132	Albert Harris	H. F. Ward	92	3		2				94	2	
133	John J. Gardiner	G. W. Fluker	107	18			1	1	2	121	14	
134	Wm. C. Livingstone	E. M. Bigg	47	3			1	4		45		2
135	Harold H. Mulligan	V. M. Hare	151	7			2	3		151		
138	C. W. Long	W. J. Wadsworth	362	12	1		1	12	4	358		4
139	T. P. Lancaster	Robert Anderson	86	5		2	2	3		88	2	
140	Robert Carson	Oliver Coles	314	11			3		4	318	4	
143	J. Howard Munro	D. P. McDiarmid	61							60		1
144	Frank J. Harnden	Vernon E. Coulter	63	2						63		
145	George W. Wilson	William R. Ledger	720	10	8	1	9	14	5	711		9
146	Wm. Donaldson	N. Blackmore	105	8				1		112	7	
147	W. J. Davison	F. T. Armstrong	39	4			1			42	3	
148	W. R. Hall	A. D. McRae	39							39		
149	J. P. Rydeen	H. G. C. Ledger	74	5		1				80	6	
150	George Garrow	J. H. C. Woodward	316	2		1	2	12	3	302		14
151	Lloyd H. Logan	S. E. Smythe	81	2		1	2			82	1	
152	W. G. Bartley	J. R. Angus	78	35	6			1	2	116	38	
153	A. W. Deem	D. F. Johnson	97	6			1		2	100	3	
154	John R. Fraser	Frank H. Osborn	108	13				3	2	116	8	
155	W. Frank Patterson	Robert Ferguson	151	9						160	9	
161	William T. Nugent	George M. Wright	164	31				3		192	28	
163	A. M. Bond	S. A. Griffin	143	4	1		3	1	2	142		1
164	C. N. Irwin	H. J. Turner	90	5	1					95	5	
167	R. R. Wilson	R. D. Keefe	178	2	1			10	1	170		8
168	G. A. Kingston	Wesley Stephens	115	5			1		1	118	3	
169	R. McFarlane	J. H. Brown	148	12			2	7		151	3	
175	J. E. Riddell Jr.	Samuel Vila	123	4				3	124	1		
184	H. W. Jamison	Jno. A. North	85	7				3	1	88	3	
185	Thomas R. Hughes	Jas. R. Bulmer	337	19	1	1	8	14	4	332		5
195	C. R. Magee	W. E. Holwell	124	5			1			128	4	
198	William Calvert	A. McClellan	135	4	1		2	2		136	1	
203	K. D. MacKay	S. G. Prescott	131	9			11	1		128		3
205	G. H. Duncan	J. E. Francis	66	4	1					71	5	
210	E. L. Lasalle	A. Walker	72				1		1	70		2
212	Abraham M. Clavir	Harry Melvin	174	7	1		7			171		3
213	John W. Morrison	Jas. E. Whaley	117	9				6		120	3	
214	W. C. Johnston	J. Vance	47	3			1			49	2	
215	Walter H. Danter	E. J. Everett	109	5	2					116	7	
217	William Hughes	Lyman F. Barnes	159	19			1	6		171	12	
218	A. E. Rosevear	M. C. Crawford	55	2			1			56	1	
219	Fred A. Doan	J. C. Thompson	180	5	1		1			185	5	
220	E. J. Hutchins	W. M. Creech	60	4						64	4	

CHAPTER RETURNS

No.	Name of Chapter	Where Held	Regular Convocation
221	Durham.....	Durham	Third Monday.....
222	Ottawa.....	Ottawa.....	Third Monday.....
223	Abitibi.....	Iroquois Falls	Fourth Friday.....
224	Keystone.....	Hamilton	First Monday
225	Beaver	Toronto	Second Wednesday.....
226	Prince of Wales.....	Perth.....	Third Monday
227	Quinte Friendship	Belleville	Second Tuesday.....
230	Port Credit.....	Port Credit	First Friday
231	The St. Clair	Toronto	Fourth Thursday
232	King Cyrus.....	Toronto.....	Third Tuesday.....
233	Oakwood.....	Toronto.....	Third Thursday.....
234	Halton.....	Georgetown.....	Third Friday.....
235	Aurora.....	Aurora.....	Third Friday.....
236	Caledonia.....	Caledonia.....	Thursday af. f. m.....
238	The St. Andrew	London.....	Second Wednesday.....
239	Blenheim.....	Blenheim.....	First Wednesday.....
240	Smithville.....	Smithville.....	Second Tuesday.....
241	University.....	Toronto.....	First Tuesday.....
242	St. Paul's.....	Lambeth.....	First Tuesday.....
243	McKay.....	Stoney Creek.....	First Wednesday.....
244	Cochrane.....	Cochrane.....	First Tuesday.....
245	Preston.....	Preston.....	Third Monday
246	Humber.....	Weston.....	Third Friday.....
247	Nilestown.....	Nilestown.....	Third Thursday

CHAPTER RETURNS TO 31st DECEMBER, 1925

Chapter No.	First Principal Z. for the Year 1926	Scribe E. for the Year 1926	Members 31st Dec., 1924.	Admissions	Joinings	Restorations	Withdrawals	Suspensions	Deaths	Members 31st Dec., 1925	Increase	Decrease
221	W. C. Pickering	T. M. McFadden	65	2	1		1			67	2	
222	E. R. Eastman	J. M. Montgomery	124	11	4					139	15	
223	James R. Spence	H. E. Ruwald	66	9			1	1	1	72	6	
224	Robert Clark	Fred. R. Martin	134	12			2	2	2	140	6	
225	E. S. Calder	J. E. Baker	261	14			6	6	1	262	1	
226	J. Rubenstein	John H. Hardy	45	6	1					52	7	
227	J. W. Kinnear	H. A. Thompson	96	6	3			1	1	103	7	
230	Gordon B. Jackson	S. B. Bradley	42	7	2					51	9	
231	A. Art. Gray	Art. E. Johnson	138	8	1		2		1	144	6	
232	A. J. Murray	A. R. Steeper	116	16	1		4			129	13	
233	Thos. Windsor	Wm. Hyndman	91	5	2		2	2		94	3	
234	B. G. Arnold	George M. Arnold	72	11						83	11	
235	W. C. Waite	F. S. Babcock	40	4	1					45	5	
236	Thos. J. Hicks	M. E. Forster	40	1						41	1	
238	Wm. L. Stewart	A. S. H. Cree	60	13	1					74	14	
239	A. J. McTavish	J. L. Rutherford	69	8						77	8	
240	E. E. Patterson	C. A. Griffin	69	5	1					75	6	
241	C. R. Redfern	P. W. Rogers	109	14	1		4			120	11	
242	G. H. Hardy	J. C. Crinklaw	48	1			1			48		
243	Joseph P. Parker	Daniel H. Firth	35	3			1			37	2	
244	Robert E. Reid	John D. MacKay	24	12	1					37	13	
245	J. A. King	H. L. Clare	24	10						34	10	
245	R. B. Dargavel	A. R. Smith	32	15	1					48	16	
247	H. E. Livermore	R. J. Carswell	21	11	1		3			30	9	
			25,315	1143	91	35	269	433	232	25,650	629	294

RECAPITULATION

Number of Chapters, Warranted	153	
Number of Members, December 31st, 1924		25,315
Number of Registrations, December 31st, 1925	1,143	
Number of Joinings, December 31st, 1925	91	
Number of Restorations, December 31st, 1925	35	
	1,269	
Number of Withdrawals, December 31st, 1925	269	
Number of Suspensions, December 31st, 1925	433	
Number of Deaths, December 31st, 1925	232	
	934	
Net Gain		335
Total Membership, December 31st, 1925		25,650

SUSPENSIONS

Chapter

- No. 1. Edwin Robert Hagen, F. Harold Hughes, Joseph J. Stewart, George F. Newlands, E. C. A. Crawford, Wm. Henry Blake, James Orville Macdonald, Wilfrid Josiah Finney.
- No. 2. George Martin, Arthur Bass, Wm. H. McConnell, John Williams, A. P. Whitney, Thomas H. Fitzgerald, James Christie, A. J. McVittie, James Pilling, Archibald Middlemost, David Rieley, William Whiting, James A. Graham, Richard Bigrig, T. F. Nicholson, W. A. Gorman, James Murdock, George Howison, J. A. Creighton, Wm. G. Clegg, D. W. Spiers, J. A. Church, Wm. G. Marsh, Wm. Turner, David Thompson, Frank Lee, John L. Smith, A. J. Thompson, Charles F. McCarthey.
- No. 3. J. B. Adams, John L. Flannigan, A. J. Marley, Hugh McIntosh, Geo. W. Renton, F. S. Simmons, M. J. Sutherland.
- No. 4. Alexander B. Beverley, Norman Wilburt Humphrey, H. L. Trimble.
- No. 7. Wm. W. Simmons, Bertie Waite, Raymond Zufelt, Louis C. Yeomans, Geo. H. Fitzgerald, Henry Conger Emerson, Elmer French. Arthur E. Bailey.
- No. 8. Wm. Allan, James R. Bloomfield, H. W. Boughner, John F. Calverly, Edward Caldwell, W. J. Farquharson, Andrew Grant, J. E. Knowles, Stanley King, Arthur Middleton, George Moyer, J. A. Payne, Edwin Shuter, W. G. Hammerton, Frank B. Houston
- No. 16. Robert Joseph Dell, Albert Ernest Emery.
- No. 19. A. L. Doty, Wm. McMenemy, DeWitt C. Vandusen, Harry Birch, Fred P. Gwinner, Leo E. Andrus.
- No. 20. William E. Long, David Stanley Cuthbertson, Wellington D. Cronk, Clinton Erie Pitcher, Simpson Parkinson, Frank J. Ulman.
- No. 22. James Stoddart.
- No. 26. William Henry Goodwin.
- No. 28. Arthur E. Pond, Samuel Baker Plimmer.
- No. 31. William G. Werden, Edward Blake Purtelle, Gilbert James White, Willis S. Benson, Everett L. Wood.
- No. 32. Arthur M. Smith, Harvey L. Willson, John Waugh.
- No. 35. Charles Williams, Fred T. Briggs, Harry T. Briggs.
- No. 36. James Edward, David Carlisle, George A. Evans,
- No. 40. Chas. M. Gair, John Finnie, Walter William Scribner, Norman Allister McLean, John William

Chapter

- Bigley, George A. E. Pert, Arthur William Mead.
- No. 41. Nabath John Daniels, Edwin Joseph Thomas, William John Henderson, William Lewis Talbot, John Forbes Herbert, William Partlo, William Pullin, Chas. A. Emery, Alfred Walker, W. W. Fergusson,, Joseph C. Cook.
- No. 45. Harry Leroy Chapin, Clifford Richard Cowie, John Cowie, William Grattin Irwin, William Norman McDougall, Hugh Ross, Harry Grant Redfern, Simeon Scripture, Howard Swayne.
- No. 47. Robert G. Harley, Edward R. Jenks, Albert E. Marshall, John Weir.
- No. 48. Benjamin Ewing, William De Lany, Hugh Cameron, William Stanley Norris, Thomas John Turpin.
- No. 53. William Ashton Simpson, Samuel Albert Saunders, William Walter McRae, John Wilfrid Randall, James Arthur McLean.
- No. 54. A. A. Morrison, James Henry Crocker.
- No. 58. Norman Stanley Pickford, James William Woodhall, Henry Lawrence Dumouchel, Harry S. Brock.
- No. 60. Wm. J. Calhoun, Thomas Edward Ball, Thos. Wm. McConkey, Norman Harwood Rogers, James Ewart Hill, Frank Butcher, James R. Burnet, Chas. C. Metcalfe, Reginald Thompson, John Percival Forester, Ralph Burns, Fred E. Boys, Andrew W. Crawford, Preston M. Thompson, Wm. H. Hoiles.
- No. 64. Vernon M. Milo, John Leitch, Chas. McKay, Robert Ramsay.
- No. 66. Jas. A. Rea, Arthur E. Forbes.
- No. 67. William G. Simmie, Thomas Harrison.
- No. 69. Albert Orr.
- No. 71. Roy Hamilton Taylor, Earl Sutherland Jones, Percy P. McCallum, Chas. E. Naylor.
- No. 73. John Henry Holmes, J. H. Collar, Henry Grawburg, G. W. Storms, Alex. Clunis, F. E. Phillips,, G. E. Armour.
- No. 75. Alfred Winn, Thayer Hepburn, Benj. George Lucas.
- No. 77. Walter Wesley Cronk, John S. Howell, Charles Newton Ferguson, Floyd D. Shaver, Jack Dixon, Herbert Payne Cranfield, Albert Burrows, William John Gunnell, Ivan Harcourt Burns, Leslie Newton Bicknell, Joseph Goreham, William Lawrence, Edward Claverley Green.

Chapter

- No. 79. R. L. Stevenson, Frank Hugo Webb, H. S. Hodgkinson, Arthur R. F. Riley, Vernon C. Knowles, John Richard Moore, Albany Royston Throughton, Charles Warner, Edwin Martin Slingerland, Harry Kingscott, John Ansen Izzett.
- No. 80. Herbert C. Ryckman, Wm. J. Chalder, Thos. Chilton, James E. Clarke, W. J. Foster, D. S. Gregory, R. C. Milne, Roy Merrill, A. E. McGraw, W. W. Spencer, J. D. Soper, David P. Turnbull, Fred Tripp, W. W. Walton, Clare Williamson.
- No. 82. W. Balsdon, W. Doig, H. Fearnley, W. N. Hesson, James Logie, G. O'Brien, R. C. Powell, Charles Stewart, Claude Street, William Turner, F. Veysey, Neil Campbell, D. L. McMillan, C. J. McKinnon.
- No. 84. Harry K. Dye, W. H. Connor.
- No. 88. Walter H. Willson, William Syms, Roy Turner.
- No. 91. Ernest B. Aldrich, Isaac Milroy Boyd, Hugh Quidley Burns, Arthur Dudley Brunskill, Wm. Ray Beecroft, Stephen Earl Benson, Thomas Henry Bell, Joseph John Bowers, Alex. Howard Creyck, Stanley Cardwell, Clarence Alex. Caldwell, Wilfrid Geo. Canning, Victor Alex. Clarke, Wm. Morgan Davis, Wm. John Drummond, Richard H. Greer, Percy W. Grant, H. A. Harrington, Geo. Edward Holt, Alfred Wm. Jennings, Wm. Caskie Kerr, Herbert P. Lowthian, Roy Joseph Merrifield, Geo. Loche McCrea, Frederick Scott McDougall, James Ernest McKay, Daniel McIntyre, Bert Edward Neiger, Gilbert Charles Nettleton, Stephen Leonard Pearson, John Percy Parker, Frederick W. Percy, Hunter Pannill, Thos. Rodda, Geo. Herbert Redfern, Alva Charles Scott, Richard Stephens, John Stephen Woodhouse, Harold Roy Woods, Harry Lorne Walker, Leslie M. Wilson, Carlton West, Vincent Mitchell Wilkinson, John Clifford Wilkinson.
- No. 100. J. W. McGill, A. A. Titus.
- No. 103. Lloyd Dunn Lang, Gordon R. Sheppard. Charles Thomas.
- No. 116. James William Johnston.
- No. 117. David Earl, Wm. Leslie Florence.
- No. 130. Adam Barclay, Sam. A. Codey, Adam Cunningham Douglas, Duncan Donald McLeod, Gilbert G. Saunders.

Chapter

- No. 132. Walter Martin.
- No. 133. Alfred Gemmel.
- No. 134. Arthur Switzer, William Bick, Edward C. H Tisdale, Joseph Thompson.
- No. 135. Isaac Watson, Robert Jenkins, Harry Carnegie.
- No. 138. Arthur Snedden, Jas. B. Roach, Albert Downing, Wm. E. Hoover, Wm. Walmsley, Albert Rosa, Chas. E. Softley, Wm. Litchfield, Garnet Jones, Robert D. Wallace, Lewis B. Pedlar, Samuel B. Green.
- No. 139. William B. Ritchie, Norman M. Griffith, Ernest Hall
- No. 145. Haviland S. Bedell, Wm. King Brandon, R. Wallace Brown, Wm. Ford Cunning , Enock Foulks Edwards, Percy R. Hoad, Edgar Alfred Hoad, Fred Ibbotson, Lawrence, Mennell, Arthur Maudsley, Harry Maudsley, Geo. Alfred Stewart, Joseph A. Thatcher, Donald Roy Darrah.
- No. 146. H. Gourlay Darroch.
- No. 150. Ernest John Fowles, George Thomas Ross, William Henry Dingle, Sam Vassall, Robert Syme, Frederick Hall, Samuel Lewis, William Ed. Wilmer, Alex. Zimmerman, Herbert Roy Henderson, John Kay, Thomas J. MacIvor.
- No. 154. George Black, Pulmas Davis, Stephen Franklin Way.
- No. 163. James Alfred Pellett.
- No. 167. F. W. Wilson, W. J. Cunningham, Quentin J. Maltby, C. D. Trueman, Don Swanson, H. R. McGill, Jos. B. Syer, H. A. Hartingh, E. F. Jamieson, F. L. Johnstone.
- No. 169. Jacob Munshaw, John E. Grady, John A. Shortt, ThomasH. Fowke, John E. Code, William J. Jones, George C. Gwynne.
- No. 184. John G. Rathvan, John W. R. Kee, Melvin A. Towlson.
- No. 185. H. E. Goodenow, W. F. Taviner, V. R. Elliott, A. M .Gibson, Russell Seller, Charles, Ramage, C. S. Anger, Fred Gage, Frank Manton, Alex. Gordon, James Harman, Harold Wallis, Sam McAdam, Richard Tucker.
- No. 198. John T. Berry, Frederick D. Maundrell.
- No. 203. R. A. Bussock, L. U. Cooper, J. R. Elliott, S. Fleming, F. O. Groch, H. Haggan, T. H. Lake, F. G. Laird, W. T. Montgomery, J. C. McNabb, J. W. Timmins.

Chapter

- No. 212. Harry Tugendhaft, Morris E. Cone, John David Goldhar, Alex. E. Singer.
- No. 213. Arthur J. Tomlinson, Robert Philip Teare, Daniel Warren, Alexander Donald McArthur, Frank Joseph Hamilton, Chetwynd S. Carter.
- No. 217. Wm. Herbert Auger, F. W. Anderson, Cecil R. Belyea, Lew McLaren, Stuart A. Murray, Harry R. Williams.
- No. 223. George David Edward McKeown.
- No. 224. James H. Leitch, Vernon Hawkins.
- No. 225. Allan Clifford Kerrigan, Bernard William Smith, Charles S. Goodwin, James Chadwick, Frederick Toseland, Rolph Delmers Vanzant.
- No. 227. James Edward Downey.
- No. 233. Bernard W. Smith, Frank W. Young.

SUSPENDED FOR U.M.C.

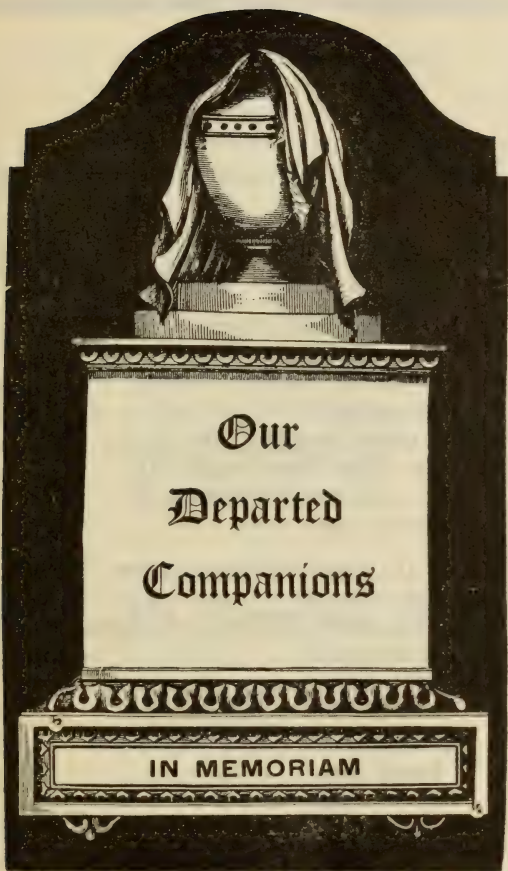
Chapter.

- No. 102. Harry Charles Barrett.

RESTORATIONS

Chapter.

- No. 1. Wesley D. Stevens.
- No. 2. J. H. R. Bond.
- No. 3. Edgar S. Crawford, George A. Moore, Thomas M. Fawkes.
- No. 15. M. S. Trusler.
- No. 20. Valentine Essig.
- No. 26. George Waddell, George Henry Bleeker.
- No. 34. Percy Edgar Dunn.
- No. 37. George Nelson Holdaway.
- No. 55. James Laughton.
- No. 63. John Thomas Chittick, Malcolm Matheson.
- No. 67. William J. Shorter.
- No. 68. A. Harry Kyle.
- No. 72. George Gilbert Thrasher.
- No. 74. Geo. W. Snell.
- No. 83. John S. Haley.
- No. 94. William Henry Barnum, Wm. Curless Perry.
- No. 102. Donald McD. Hogarth, Gordon H. Hayward.
- No. 129. Charles M. French.
- No. 130. George Somerville, Angus Munroe.
- No. 132. Norman R. Gardiner, John Abrams.
- No. 139. R. F. Covert, F. R. Wells.
- No. 145. Fred Cecil Holmes.
- No. 149. Adam Hay.
- No. 150. James Benjamin Foote.
- No. 151. James Alexander Livingstone.
- No. 185. Thomas Oliver Hooper.



“How fast they fall—those we have known—
As leaves from autumn blown,
So quickly sear.”

“Yes, one by one they drop away
As withered leaves they fall and stray
And disappear.”

EVERY YEAR

Too true! Life's shores are shifting
Every year;
And we are seaward drifting
Every year;
Old places, changing, fret us
The living more forget us,
There are fewer to regret us
Every year.

But the truer life draws nigher
Every year;
And its morning star climbs higher
Every year;
Earth's hold on us grows slighter
And the heavy burden lighter
And the Dawn Immortal brighter
Every year.

"One by one our friends departing,
One by one they cross the bar,
One by one our hearts are bleeding;
God alone can heal the scar."

M. EX. COMPANION
HIS HONOUR

John E. Harding

GRAND Z., 1892-93
GRAND REPRESENTATIVE
MASSACHUSETTS

DIED MARCH 16th, 1925

HAMILTON, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

H. E. W. Tamlyn, M.D.

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
HURON DISTRICT, No. 6

DIED JANUARY 18th, 1925

WINGHAM, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

Alexander Hector Watson

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 11

DIED FEBRUARY 9th, 1925

MADOC, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

George T. Martin

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13

DIED MARCH 4th, 1925

SMITH'S FALLS, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

George M. Aylesworth

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9.

DIED APRIL 14th, 1925

COLLINGWOOD, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

Colin William Postlethwaite

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
TORONTO DISTRICT, No. 8

DIED APRIL 24th, 1925

TORONTO, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

John J. McMahon

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
ONTARIO DISTRICT, No. 10

DIED APRIL 27th, 1925

LINDSAY, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

William Stark

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
HAMILTON DISTRICT, No. 5

DIED AUGUST 14th, 1925

MILTON, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

Frank S. Lewis

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9

DIED AUGUST 30th, 1925

COLLINGWOOD, ONT.

R. EX. COMPANION

David Barr

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT
OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13

DIED DECEMBER 20th, 1925

RENFREW, ONT.

V. EX. COMPANION

Sydney B. Sykes

PAST GRAND SENIOR SOJOURNER

DIED MARCH 30th, 1925

TORONTO, ONT.

V. EX. COMPANION

James T. Cameron

PAST GRAND ORGANIST

DIED JUNE 25th, 1925

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONT.

V. EX. COMPANION

John McCurrah

PAST GRAND JUNIOR SOJOURNER

DIED AUGUST 23rd, 1925

TORONTO, ONT.

They Rest in Peace

"Sweet are thoughts of them, though they are gone;
Rays from the sepulchre, why should we mourn?
Gentle the words they said, brightening the path we
tread,
Blest are the hallowed dead—why do we mourn?"

Deaths

Chapter

- No. 1. Richard Bunt, 6 Sept., 1925; John H. Birkett, 21 May, 1925; Wm. James Renton, 20 July, 1925:
- No. 2. William J. Hallett, 6 Feb., 1925; Allen W. Scott, 17 Mar., 1925; William C. Langhorn, 8 April, 1925; Harry Marshall, 27 Dec., 1925.
- No. 3. Thos. Henry Tracy, 31 Oct., 1925; Alf. Gunther, 29 June, 1925; John W. McCallum, 20 Jan., 1925.
- No. 4. Thos. Marshall, 25 Oct., 1925; John McCurrah, 23 Aug., 1925; W. C. Phillips, Oct., 1925.
- No. 5. John Footitt, 1 Aug., 1925; Roselle Pockocke, 14 Nov., 1925; Wm. Skinner, 24 July, 1925; W. J. Wilson, 21 Nov., 1925; Geo. W. Walters, 9 Feb., 1925; T. D. McMullen, 2 Oct., 1925; P. J. Paterson, 15 Mar., 1925; F. G. Mitchell, 13 Dec., 1925.
- No. 6. William Birrell, 15 Feb., 1925; Daniel A. Bedwell, 19 April, 1925; Samuel J. Hilton, 28 April, 1925; Thomas Meade (date not given); William C. Reid, 6 Nov., 1925; Carl G. Carlson, 19 Dec., 1925.
- No. 7. John Fenn, 26 Jan., 1925; Henry C. Carr, 11 Mar., 1925; James A. Goodsell, 5 Oct., 1925.
- No. 8. Thomas A. Duff, 24 May, 1925; W. H. L. Dawson, Dec., 1925; R. A. Wilson, 21 Oct., 1925.
- No. 15. B. F. George, 18 April, 1925; T. R. Davis, 31 Dec., 1925; S. Burley, 1 Nov., 1925; F. G. Newton, 23 Nov., 1925.
- No. 16. Joseph E. Featherstone, 18 Aug., 1925.
- No. 18. Geo. Dingwell, 9 June, 1925.
- No. 19. John Madill, 29 April, 1925; S. K. Watt, 4 Sept., 1925; Phillip H. Wismer, 5 July, 1925.

Deaths

Chapter

- No. 20. David T. Thomson, 6 April, 1925.
- No. 22. Frederick Sanford Evanson, 29 Sept., 1925; John Davidson, 12 Dec., 1925; Alexander Buchanan Lawrence, 28 Dec., 1925.
- No. 23. Andrew H. Smith, 13 July, 1925; Richard Spencer, 7 Aug., 1925.
- No. 24. John E. Harding, 16 Mar., 1925; George Malcolm, 18 Aug., 1925.
- No. 26. James B. Christie, 4 Feb., 1925; Kenneth S. White, 4 Aug., 1925; James Edward Masten, 13 Oct., 1925; Nowell Marshall Sweet, 28 Dec., 1925.
- N. 27. George Aylesworth, 14 April, 1925; Wm. F. Herrington, 12 Feb., 1925; W. N. Lawrence, 7 Oct., 1925; Frank S. Lewis, 30 Aug., 1925.
- No. 28. Robert Hackett Rogan, 8 Mar, 1925; James Montague Smith; 1 Mar., 1925.
- No. 29. Frank Furry, 31 July, 1925; W. F. Hoygaith, 27 July, 1925.
- No. 30. Samuel Bissett, 5 July, 1925; William D. Baxter, 16 May, 1925; George H. Launder, 2 Aug., 1925; John W. Vanatter, 25 Dec., 1925.
- No. 31. David Bongard, 2 May, 1925; Herbert Stanley Reynolds, 22 May, 1925; James H. Spencer, 23 Aug., 1925.
- No. 32. James M. Hood, 11 May, 1925; Edmund Snell, 14 May, 1925; A. P. Gundry, 27 Sept., 1925; Walter D. Cowan, 15 Oct., 1925; George C. Easton, 13 Dec., 1925.
- No. 35. Richard Francis, 2 Dec., 1925.
- No. 36. William E. Conway, 31 May, 1925.
- No. 37. William George Brown, 8 Mar., 1925.
- No. 40. John Howard McNally, 10 July, 1925.
- No. 41. Solo Martin, August, 1925.
- No. 44. Thos. Irvine Winter, 28 Oct., 1925.
- No. 45. James Cowie, 27 April, 1925.
- No. 46. Allan Carman, 29 Jan., 1925; Harold J. Croyier, 12 Aug., 1925.

Deaths

Chapter

- No. 47. William Henry Clements, 4 April, 1925;
George Smithson, 6 June, 1925.
- No. 48. F. D. Forest, 29 Mar., 1925.
- No. 53. Robert Jackson, 7 Mar., 1925; Robert
Browning, 19 Feb., 1925; Joseph O.
Rooker, 11 Dec., 1925.
- No. 54. John Henry Courtney, 2 June, 1925;
Robert Middleton, 31 Aug., 1925;
Henry George Dunn, 12 Oct., 1925;
Lorenzo Jones, 29 Oct., 1925.
- No. 56. Joseph James Downing, 28 Sept., 1925;
William Little, 27 Nov., 1925; Samuel
Buchanan, 25 June, 1925.
- No. 58. John Glenn Crawford, 6 Oct., 1925.
- No. 59. Donald McAlpine, 12 May, 1925; Horace
N. Gardiner, 27 April, 1925; N. Omer
Kilpatrick, 7 Sept., 1925; Arthur
Harold Brown, 14 Oct., 1925.
- No. 62. Alfred Clarke, 22 April, 1925; George
Campbell, 19 Oct., 1925.
- No. 63. Malcolm Matheson, 9 Aug., 1925; James
H. Fleming, 28 Aug., 1925.
- No. 64. William C. Dandy, 24 Jan., 1925.
- No. 65. Wm. Austin Werrett, Nov., 1925; Sydney
B. Sykes, 30 Mar., 1925; Augustus P.
Burritt, 22 Feb., 1925; Robert B. Hen-
derson, 1 Nov., 1925; C. W. Postle-
thwaite, 24 April, 1925.
- No. 66. Lauder Delacey, 13 Dec., 1925; David
Pinkney, July, 1925; John Wilmer Peck,
July, 1925.
- No. 67. Patrick Brown, 23 July, 1925; John Ival,
19 Nov., 1925; John L. Eedy, March,
1915.
- No. 68. Harry K. Carter, 13 March, 1925; Geo.
Mansell Wilkins, 19 July, 1925.
- No. 69. W. G. Reid, 20 Feb., 1923; Gavin Stewart,
19 July, 1921; George Rideout Secor,
July, 1921; Frank Ernest Hewitt,
1923; Lloyd Lawrence Buck, Jan., 1925.

Deaths

Chapter

- No. 70. John Harvey Monteith, 18 May, 1925; William McGowan, 7 Dec., 1925.
- No. 71. Herbert Arthur Harris, 9 April, 1925.
- No. 72. Ernest Bird Morton, 10 Sept., 1925.
- No. 73. E. Roy Betts, 23 March, 1925.
- No. 75. William Stark, 14 Aug., 1925.
- No. 76. Thos. L. McArtney, 13 April, 1925; Charles A. Vanderburg, 12 Feb., 1925; Ernest Pickard, 15 Aug., 1925; A. L. Parry, 15 July, 1925.
- No. 77. Thomas Prince, 25 March, 1925; Andrew Nelson, 1 Oct., 1925; Frank Augustas MacDougall, 23 April, 1925; William F. Johnston, Nov., 1922; Fred Prince, 20 Dec., 1925.
- No. 78. Geo. A. Fraser, 16 April, 1925.
- No. 79. Chas. A. J. Farquhar, 20 Aug., 1925; Harold Victor Rowe, 29 Sept., 1925.
- No. 80. Charles H. Walters, 13 Nov., 1925; Fred Prince, 29 Jan., 1925.
- No. 81. Rodolphus McKenny, 19 Dec., 1925.
- No. 82. H. A. Petts, 22 Aug., 1925; Joseph Good, 22 Dec., 1925; John S. Merrill, 8 Aug., 1925; G. W. Brown, 26 May, 1925; Thomas Henry Fisher, 1 June, 1925.
- No. 83. Robert Hewitt, 21 Oct., 1925; William Watson (date not known).
- No. 84. Jas. M. Smith, Nov. 1924; H. E. W. Tamlyn, 18 Jan., 1925.
- No. 86. Alfred Helstrop, 6 Sept., 1925.
- No. 88. W. A. Peace (no date given).
- No. 90. Edward Dawson, 25 June, 1925.
- No. 91. Chas. Frederick Harraden, 1 Sept., 1925; Frederick Geo. Lee, 26 Oct., 1925; William Gellies, 14 Dec., 1925.
- No. 94. J. E. Harding, 16 Mar., 1925; John J. McMahon, 27 April, 1925; Herbert H. Harry, 29 June, 1925; Chas. F. Reeves, 12 Sept., 1925.
- No. 100.D. A. Cummings, 20 Jan., 1925.

Deaths

Chapter

- No. 102. Thompson Smith Durham, 11 Mar., 1925; Richard Jones, 30 May, 1925; James T. Cameron, 25 June, 1925; Thomas Fraser, 7 July, 1925; Charles B. Smith, 4 July, 1925; Wm. L. Nicholls, 28 Sept., 1925.
- No. 104. W. O. Joyce, 14 April, 1925.
- No. 113. Maurice C. Hamilton, Sept., 1925.
- No. 114. David Barr, Dec. 20, 1925; Robert Handley, 2 Dec., 1925.
- No. 115. William Oliver, 11 July, 1925; Robert Elliott, 2 Sept., 1925.
- No. 116. J. Franklin Moffatt, 24 April, 1925.
- No. 119. Gowan Malott, 5 Dec., 1925.
- No. 132. George Toner, May, 1925; James MacKellar, July, 1925.
- No. 133. George T. Martin, 4 March, 1925; John T. Scott, 30 Aug., 1925.
- No. 135. Thomas Reynolds, 21 Nov., 1925; Ira Graham, 13 Dec., 1925.
- No. 138. Angus Fraser, 7 May, 1925; Thomas Ferguson, 24 Jan., 1925; John F. Miller, 6 June, 1925; Edward J. Walden, 23 June, 1925.
- No. 140. Albert Sellers, 11 Feb., 1925; Fred Nagle, 24 April, 1925; W. W. Brown, 16 June, 1925; John Macdonald, 15 Aug., 1925.
- No. 143. Hugh A. McIntyre, 12 Nov., 1925.
- No. 145. Thomas Gibson, 21 Jan., 1925; Harry Bristol Lattimer, 26 April, 1925; George Sterling Ryerson, 20 May, 1925; Wm. Forbes Singer, 20 May, 1925; Jos. V. May, 20 Oct., 1925.
- No. 150. Stephen S. Irwin, 5 April, 1925; John C. Ingram, 3 June, 1925; Alfred Henry Burrows, 11 Nov., 1925.
- No. 152. Henry Albert Prall-Pierce, 13 July, 1925; John B. Mosher, 25 Sept., 1925.
- No. 153. Robert A. Stokes, 22 June, 1925; Isaac Arnold, 19 Nov., 1925.
- No. 154. Harry Barton Iseman, 2 Aug., 1925; A. L. Bell (no date given).

Deaths

Chapter

- No. 161. Alexander Hector Watson, 9 Feb., 1925;
Alexander Milne, 18 Mar., 1925; Thomas Newton Johnston, 23 Mar., 1925.
- No. 163. John Killips Patton, 19 Feb., 1925; John McCurrah, 23 Aug., 1925.
- No. 164. Alexander McPherson, 28 Sept., 1925.
- No. 167. John Scott, 30 May, 1925.
- No. 168. George Hormel, 22 Dec., 1925.
- No. 175. George S. Kerr, 10 Sept., 1925; Frederick F. Backus, 24 June, 1925; Gordon McLaren, 16 Nov., 1925.
- No. 184. John W. Bond, 21 Oct., 1925.
- No. 185. Harry C. Montgomery, 13 Mar., 1925; J. T. V. May, 25 Oct., 1925; Wm. G. Bustard, 25 Sept., 1925; C. H. Brown, 10 Nov., 1925.
- No. 203. Geo. D. Johnston, 9 Dec., 1925.
- No. 210. John W. Hume, 15 Sept., 1925.
- No. 223. William Patrick Begley, 27 Feb., 1925.
- No. 224. William J. Mountjoy, 24, Mar, 1925; Samuel J. Hilton, 28 April, 1925.
- No. 225. Claude McFarlane, 14 Aug., 1925.
- No. 227. John McIntosh, 18 Mar., 1925.
- No. 231. James Lewis McLean, 18 Mar., 1925.

WHAT IS LIFE

"What is life; 'tis a beautiful shell
Thrown up by eternity's flow,
On time's bank of quicksands to dwell,
And a moment its loveliness show.

"Gone back to its element grand,
Is the billow that washed it ashore;
See! Another now washes the strand
And the beautiful shell is no more."

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

AT GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA

GRAND CHAPTER.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama.....	Edwin Smith.....	London
Alberta.....	J. K. Brydon.....	Kenora
Arizona.....	C. W. Haentschel.....	Haileybury
Arkansas.....	T. W. Chapple.....	Kenora
British Columbia.....	E. M. Carleton.....	Toronto
California.....	J. W. Rogers.....	Toronto
Colorado.....	J. McC. Potts.....	Stirling
Connecticut.....	Harvey J. Milne.....	Kingston
Delaware.....	A. C. Larter.....	Toronto
District of Columbia.....	Robert W. Clewlo.....	Toronto
Florida.....	James H. Cowan.....	Galt
Georgia.....	W. N. Ponton.....	Belleville
Idaho.....	W. H. G. Garrioch.....	Ottawa
Illinois.....	Joseph J. Shelley.....	Toronto
Indiana.....	John Stevenson.....	Stratford
Iowa.....	Edward Lankin.....	Toronto
Ireland.....	William Henry Ballard.....	Hamilton
Kansas.....	J. M. Gibson.....	Hamilton
Kentucky.....	John Graham.....	London
Louisiana.....	W. Y. Mills.....	Kingston
Maine.....	Marshal E. Sherwood.....	Woodstock
Manitoba.....	Robt. Henry Reid.....	Woodstock
Maryland.....	R. G. W. Conolly.....	St. Catharines
Massachusetts.....	D. H. McIntosh.....	Carleton Place
Michigan.....	Henry T. Smith.....	Toronto
Minnesota.....	Oliver Ellwood.....	London
Mississippi.....	John J. Farley.....	Belleville
Missouri.....	Alex. G. Horwood.....	Toronto
Montana.....	W. M. Logan.....	Hamilton
Nebraska.....	R. H. Spencer.....	Trenton
Nevada.....	W. H. Mowat.....	Brockville
New Brunswick.....	Charles T. Wilkinson.....	Brockville
New Hampshire.....	Walter H. Davis.....	Hamilton
New Jersey.....	K. J. Dunstan.....	Toronto
New South Wales.....	W. H. Tudhope.....	Orillia
New York.....	F. W. Harcourt.....	Toronto
New Zealand.....	John A. Cowan.....	Toronto
North Carolina.....	R. W. Brennan.....	Toronto
North Dakota.....	George L. Gardiner.....	Toronto
Nova Scotia.....	George Moore.....	Hamilton
Ohio.....	Hugh A. MacKay.....	Hamilton
Oklahoma.....	Ed. Worth.....	Cobourg
Oregon.....	D. A. Clark.....	Ottawa
Pennsylvania.....	R. J. Reade.....	Toronto
Quebec.....	Edward B. Brown.....	Toronto
Rhode Island.....	Michael Walsh.....	Ingersoll
Saskatchewan.....	William Croft.....	Toronto
Scotland.....	W. H. Wardrope.....	Hamilton
South Carolina.....	James B. Little.....	Trenton
South Dakota.....	A. E. Cooper.....	London
Tennessee.....	Walter G. Price.....	Port Credit
Texas.....	E. T. Malone.....	Toronto
Utah.....	A. S. Gorrell.....	Regina
Vermont.....	J. B. Nixon.....	Toronto
Victoria.....	Joseph W. Hickson.....	Toronto
Virginia.....	Douglas Ponton.....	Toronto
Washington.....	Frank Hills.....	Hamilton
Western Australia.....	William Panton.....	Milton
West Virginia.....	Alexander Cowan.....	Barrie
Wisconsin.....	William J. Wadsworth.....	Toronto
Wyoming.....	David H. McCracken.....	Port Colborne

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

FROM GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA

GRAND CHAPTER.	NAME.	RESIDENCE
Alabama.....	Lew Lazarus.....	Birmingham
Alberta.....	F. S. Watson.....	Edmonton
Arizona.....	James Henry Barrett.....	Douglas
Arkansas.....	Jeff L. Davis.....	Fayetteville
British Columbia.....	Harry H. Watson.....	Vancouver
California.....	Roland E. Hartley.....	San Francisco
Colorado.....	Stanley C. Warner.....	Denver
Connecticut.....	Geo. N. Delap.....	Hartford
Delaware.....	George E. Scott.....	Wilmington
District of Columbia.....	Lucien G. Yung.....	Washington
Florida.....	Chester de Rocher.....	Bradentown
Georgia.....	E. P. Coulter.....	Columbus
Idaho.....	Frank E. Higson.....	Pocatello
Illinois.....	Fred W. Soady.....	Pekin
Indiana.....	William H. Baugh.....	Terre Haute
Iowa.....	D. B. Aylesworth.....	Eldora
Ireland.....		
Kansas.....	Roy H. Clossen.....	Coffeyville
Kentucky.....	A. Gordon Sulser.....	Maysville
Louisiana.....	John W. Armstrong.....	Welsh
Maine.....	James A. Richan.....	Rockland
Manitoba.....	Frank W. Brownell.....	Winnipeg
Maryland.....	George. I. Daneker.....	Baltimore
Massachusetts.....	Lorenzo L. Green.....	Medford
Michigan.....	Charles Arthur Conover.....	Coldwater
Minnesota.....	J. Arthur Jensen.....	Minneapolis
Mississippi.....	Leon S. Lippincott.....	Vicksburg
Missouri.....	Orson H. Swearinger.....	Kansas City
Montana.....	Joseph J. Hindson.....	Helena
Nebraska.....	Clemens A. Spellman.....	Beatrice
Nevada.....	Frank Bell.....	Reno
New Brunswick.....	Edgar W. Mair.....	Woodstock
New Hampshire.....	Frank R. Marston.....	Farmington
New Jersey.....	Godfrey Pittis.....	Allendale
New South Wales.....	James McCreadie.....	Sydney
New York.....	Edward F. Rolle.....	New York City
New Zealand.....	James Hamilton Harkness.....	Westport
North Carolina.....	Wiley M. Pickens.....	Salisbury
North Dakota.....	Geo. H. Keyes.....	Ellendale
Nova Scotia.....	G. S. Wright.....	Halifax
Ohio.....	Wilden E. Joseph.....	Columbus
Oklahoma.....	William Noble.....	Oklahoma City
Oregon.....	Donald McKay.....	Portland
Pennsylvania.....	Samuel Shaw.....	Lansdale
Quebec.....	John Alex Cameron.....	Montreal
Rhode Island.....	Norris G. Abbott.....	Providence
Saskatchewan.....	Arthur S. Gorrell.....	Regina
Scotland.....	A. J. Campbell.....	Dalmuir
South Carolina.....	Wm. W. Wannamaker.....	Orangeburg
South Dakota.....	L. M. Simons.....	Belle Fourche
Tennessee.....	J. Leonard Wood.....	Memphis
Texas.....	B. K. Hawkins.....	Brownwood
Utah.....	John C. Brown.....	Ogden
Vermont.....	C. W. Whitcomb.....	Cavendish
Victoria.....	John Byatt.....	Melbourne
Virginia.....	Arthur L. Mattern.....	Richmond
Washington.....	Robert L. McCroskey.....	Colfax
Western Australia.....	Wm. Henry Berry.....	West Leaderville
West Virginia.....	Frederick C. Steinbicker.....	Wheeling
Wisconsin.....	David Harlowe.....	Milwaukee
Wyoming.....	Richard H. Repath.....	Cheyenne

N.B.—The Grand Chapter of New Mexico does not exchange representatives

GRAND SECRETARIES

GRAND CHAPTERS	NAME	RESIDENCE
Alabama.....	Geo. A. Beauchamp.....	Montgomery, Mas. Temple
Alberta.....	Clifford R. Wentzel.....	Calgary, 809-9½ St. N.W.
Arizona.....	Geo. J. Roskrue.....	Tucson, Box J.
Arkansas.....	John C. Bone.....	Batesville, 100 Spring St.
British Columbia.....	J. W. Prescott, G.S.E.....	Vancouver, 603 Hastings St. W.
California.....	Thos. A. Davies.....	San Francisco, Rm. 421, Mas. Temple
Canada.....	Henry T. Smith, G.S.E.....	Toronto, 708 Temple Bldg.
Colorado.....	W. W. Cooper.....	Denver, Rm. 319, Mas. Temple
Connecticut.....	Geo. A. Kies.....	Hartford, Mas. Temple
Delaware.....	John W. MacKlem.....	Wilmington, Box 94
District of Columbia.....	J. Claude Keiper.....	Washington, Mas. Temple
England.....	P. Colville Smith, G.S.E.....	London, W.C., Freemasons Hall
Florida.....	Wilber P. Webster.....	Jacksonville
Georgia.....	E. A. McHan.....	Macon
Idaho.....	Edward H. Way.....	Boise, Box 1203
Illinois.....	J. E. Jeffers.....	Springfield, Box 656
Indiana.....	Robt. A. Woods.....	Princeton, Mas. Temple
Iowa.....	O. F. Graves.....	Harlan
Ireland.....	H. C. Shellard, G. Reg.....	Dublin, Freemasons Hall
Kansas.....	Albert K. Wilson.....	Topeka
Kentucky.....	G. Allison Holland.....	Lexington
Louisiana.....	John A. Davilla.....	New Orleans, Rm. 301, Mas. Temple
Maine.....	Chas. B. Davies.....	Portland, Mas. Temple
Manitoba.....	H. F. Moulden, G.S.E.....	Winnipeg, 171 Market St.
Maryland.....	Gustav A. Eitel.....	Baltimore, Mas. Temple
Massachusetts.....	Fred'k. T. Comee.....	Boston, Mas. Temple, Rm. 209
Michigan.....	Chas. A. Conover.....	Coldwater, 95 W. Chicago St.
Minnesota.....	John Fishel.....	St. Paul, 315 Despatch Bldg.
Mississippi.....	Edward L. Faucette.....	Meridan
Missouri.....	Ray V. Denslow.....	St. Louis, 911 Locust St.
Montana.....		
Nebraska.....	Francis E. White.....	Omaha, M.T., 19th and Douglas
Nevada.....	Edw. D. Vanderlieth.....	Reno
New Brunswick.....	J. Twining Hartt.....	St. John, Ritchie's Bldg.
New Hampshire.....	Harry M. Cheney.....	Concord
New Jersey.....	Abram A. Reger.....	Somerville, 27 East Cliff St.
New Mexico.....	Alpheus A. Keen.....	Albuquerque, Box 535
New South Wales.....	D. R. Hutchison.....	Sydney, 32 Elizabeth St.
New York.....	Chas. C. Hunt.....	New York City, Mas. Hall
New Zealand.....	Chas. W. Nielson.....	Wellington, Box 236
North Carolina.....	John B. Griggs.....	Elizabeth City
North Dakota.....	Walter L. Stockwell.....	Fargo
Nova Scotia.....	Brenton F. Porter.....	Truro, Box 145
Ohio.....	Edwin Hagenbuch.....	Urbana
Oklahoma.....	Jas. A. Scott.....	Muskogee, Phoenix Bldg.
Oregon.....	D. Rufus Cheney.....	Portland, Multnomah Hotel
Pennsylvania.....	Joseph E. Quinby.....	Philadelphia, Mas. Temple
Quebec.....	W. W. Williamson, G.S.E.....	Montreal, Box 3172
Queensland.....	Thos. C. Moxley.....	Coorparoo, South Brisbane— "Chasmay," Old Cleveland Road
Rhode Island.....	William R. Greene.....	Providence, Freemasons Hall
Saskatchewan.....	Francis B. Reilly, G.S.E.....	Regina, 312 Westman Chambers
Scotland.....	Geo. A. Howell, G.S.E.....	Edinburgh, 76 Queen St.
South Carolina.....	O. Frank Hart.....	Columbia
South Dakota.....	Geo. A. Pettigrew.....	Sioux Falls, Mas. Temple
Tennessee.....	Stith M. Cain.....	Nashville, 306 7th Ave. N.
Texas.....	T. M. Bartley.....	Waco
Utah.....	Walter Daniels.....	Salt Lake City, Mas. Temple
Vermont.....	Henry H. Ross.....	Burlington, Mas. Temple
Victoria.....	J. E. Kennedy, G.S.E.....	Melbourne, 366A Bourke St.
Virginia.....	J. G. Hankins.....	Richmond, Box 542
Washington.....	H. L. Kennan.....	Spokane, 412 Hyde Bldg.
Western Australia.....	Jno. C. Strickland.....	Perth, St. George's Terrace
West Virginia.....	G. M. Ford.....	Wheeling, 1407 Market St.
Wisconsin.....	Wm. W. Perry.....	Milwaukee, 470 VanBuren St.
Wyoming.....	Richard H. Repath.....	Cheyenne, P.O. Box 816
Gen. Grand Chapter, U.S.....	Chas. A. Conover.....	Coldwater, Mich.
England-Wales M.M.M. Lodge.....	T. G. L. Lumley-Smith.....	London, W.C., Mark Masons' Hall

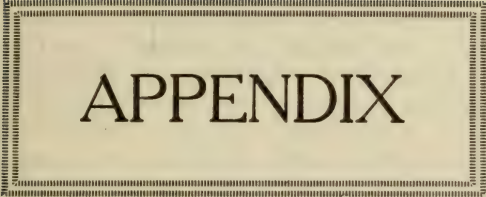
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APPENDIX

CAPITULAR CORRESPONDENCE AND REVIEW OF SISTER JURISDICTIONS

**M.E. Companion William Nisbet Ponton, P.G.Z.,
Grand Historian "Canada."**

FOREWORD AND RECOMMENDATION.

We think that the Grand Chapter of Queensland has earned autonomous recognition by good work well done, and therefore we recommend that the Grand Chapter of Queensland be officially recognized by the Grand Chapter of Canada, and that Grand Representatives be regularly exchanged. At the same time this should not be deemed an approval of the rather violent language occasionally used by our friends and Companions in Southern British Jurisdictions in regard to parent Grand Chapters, nor do we in any way desire to interfere with the free choice of a free people, if old established Chapters in Queensland under the English, Scottish or Irish Grand Chapters, prefer to continue in their active allegiance to the respective Grand Bodies from whose loins they sprang. Surely in this, as in all other matters Masonic, conciliation and consideration and the passing of the years offer the best, and most enduring and amicable solution—without irritation or friction. Good comradeship suggests "Brothers in arms and rivals in renown, who best may work, and best agree."

We commend the following survey and interpretation of the acts and thoughts, the facts and factors, of Sister Jurisdictions throughout the world, to every Chapter in our Jurisdiction, believing that at least one night might be profitably and enjoyably spent in perusing and pondering together the "happy

citations" from Rulers of the Royal Craft, the weighty deliverances of Jurisprudence and other Committees, the exquisite *In Memoriam* tributes to those who have passed the terrestrial veils, the poetry and wit which occasionally flash from their pages, the richly flowing artesian wells of philanthropy and of educational progress which are tapped; and the manifold practical activities which characterize our alert and vigilant and discriminating Companions of Sister Jurisdictions, who have similar problems, similar aims, similar traditions to our own, but sometimes dissimilar points of view, though concordant in spirit and in result. Let us broaden our horizon and enlarge our experiences with the vision circumspective "beyond the hills of home." More and more we realize individually what a pillar of strength and confidence to a community is the existence of an active Royal Arch Chapter; and collectively what a productive influence for creative good and for permanent peace must be those million members of the Royal Craft if loyal to the royal in themselves, if firmly assertive of their rights and true to their responsibilities. There's nothing more kingly than kindness,—nothing more royal than truth. Truth is the great common denominator into which each one of our creeds, our tenets and our principles must be divisible. So at home or abroad let us exemplify the excellent precepts ever inculcated within our Chapters,—reservoirs of power and pleasure—and be worthy exponents of those virile virtues which should characterize exalted Companions of the Capitular covenant. Proud and grateful we all should be that east and west, north and south "the tested chain holds fast, the well forged links ring true" on the anvils of work, in the argosies of faith, which unite us in our great co-operative design and our commonwealth of the arch of peace. The chronicles and annals of Sister Jurisdictions which it has been our privilege to summarize, bring us into touch with master minds and fellow sojourners, points of contact as

well as points of transmission. "By day and night, under the sun and under the stars, climbing up the highest hills, toiling through the dusty valleys, *so strangely to meet, and to act and react on one another*, move all we travellers through the pilgrimage of life"—a great laboratory—a wonderful mosaic. Come now let us journey together, receptive and responsive.

ALABAMA.

Joseph Leon Gunter, M.E. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 15,488.
Net gain, 337.

The expressive features of Grand High Priest Gunter preface the Transactions and his biographer says of him:—

"He is a man of remarkably pleasing personality, magnetic and polished. He is distinguished for his sincerity and earnestness in all he does and his zeal and enthusiasm for Masonry in all its branches is unbounded."

The Ninety-eighth Annual Convocation was held in Montgomery, December 1, 1924. No less than 15 Past Grand High Priests reported for honourable duty.

Canada was represented by the veteran M. Ex. Comp. Lew Lazarus, one of the most active members of Grand Chapter.

The opening of Grand Chapter and the honours to the Grand High Priest are thus recorded:—

"His entrance was proclaimed by Most Excellent Companion Charles R. Bricken, acting as Grand Marshal, the Grand Honours were given, and the Most Excellent Grand High Priest was conducted to the East."

Among the distinguished visitors were the Grand Master of Alabama, the Grand Master of the Grand Council of Alabama, Representatives of the General Grand Council and Past Grand Commander Moore of the Thirty Third Degree A.A.S.R.

The Grand High Priest thus commences his address:—

"The harp of memory is touched to-day as we assemble in the 98th Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama in this sacred and historic spot—the cradle of the Confederacy.

"I gladly greet you, Companions, and hope that these shall be high days and that we shall return to our homes at the close of this Convocation with a greater appreciation of Capitular Masonry."

He records the fact that R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Smith has been re-confirmed as Representative of Alabama to Canada.

On behalf of the Alabama Masonic Home he wrote to all the Companions as follows:—

"No truer words were ever uttered than these: 'Humanity's need is humanity's prayer; humanity's need is the call of God.'

"I feel confident that all that is necessary is for me to call your attention to the needs of that humanitarian institute of ours, the Masonic Home at Montgomery. Let the streams of your Charity be directed toward it, and the monument that you will erect for yourselves will be more lasting and beautiful than Parian marble."

He extended an invitation to the next General Grand Chapter to Montgomery in the following terms:—

"To meet with us there in our new Temple, in a city of over one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, in the midst of the coal and iron district of Alabama and the heart of our industrial and manufacturing activities."

This from his conclusion:—

"In entering upon the business of the Grand Chapter let us not forget Him who doeth all things well and ask His divine guidance in every transaction that may come before us."

The Governor of Alabama, Comp. W. W. Brandon, was welcomed in a pleasing and eloquent manner.

The following resolution with regard to Grand Representatives was adopted:—

"*Be it resolved*, That the commissions of Grand Representatives shall be *ad vitam*, provided that the commission of any Representative who is absent, without excuse, from three consecutive Annual Convocations shall be thereby revoked."

From the report of the Committee on Necrology we take the following consolatory sentence:—

"While we shed the sympathetic tear for our departed Companions we are comforted by the hope that by the strong grip of the Lion of the tribe of Judah they shall be raised from their sleep and together with other true Companions who have gone before receive the white stone with the new name that shall fit them to dwell eternally in the presence of the Great I Am That I Am."

Under transfer of membership the Grand High Priest issued these instructions:—

"While a person can be a member of only one Chapter, yet he may transfer his membership from one Chapter in this State to another Chapter in this State without dimitting."

From the report of the Committee on Masonic and American citizenship we find the following informing and outspoken views:—

"Our country has recently passed through a period of unrest, due in part, to an extended propaganda attacking the fundamentals of our Constitution. Demagogism and fallacious, foreign political concepts ran rampant through the nation, but the sober second thought of the people weighed them in the balances of the national conscience and found them not only wanting, but utterly opposed to our institutions, as well as to our concept of the heritage guaranteed to us by the Constitution of the United States, viz.; life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

"A recent survey of the educational facilities of the State of Alabama shows that notwithstanding the advancement along these lines in the past few years our State still lags behind. The amount of money available for educational purposes is still very inadequate. We are still third from the bottom in the list of the States in the number of white illiterates."

Introducing the In Memoriam pages are the following verses:—

"Dust to dust—from whence—to where?
Here but a breath—then gone!
Life is a prison—death the release,
And then we journey on."

"Fades the light and afar goeth day,
Cometh night and a star!
Leadeth all, spedeth all to their rest."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is in the veteran and experienced hands of M. Ex. Comp. Lawrence H. Lee, who states in his introduction:—

"The search for light goes forward with the passing years. So long as the Craft continues to "carry on" in that direction in our day, or later, should not matter to us, so it happens eventually. It is ours to add such as we may, leaving to the instruments that the Grand Architect may afterwards erect to reap whatever of joy or gladness that may result therefrom."

Under Alberta he writes:—

"The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Companion R. B. Brett, was received with honours due his station, but in Alabama he would not have been entitled to the Grand Honours.

"There is a report on correspondence, in topical form, and hence difficult to comment on, except to say that the excerpts are good or indifferent, depending on what strikes one as valuable or valueless."

Under Arkansas he thus comments showing the penetrating and agile brain of our reviewer who bears an open mind:—

"He granted many dispensations, some legal and some illegal, made many visits with varying success. There is a short report on correspondence, but no indication of its author."

British Columbia revives this memorial in stone:—

"He concludes his report with a picture of and the inscription upon "The Peace Memorial Arch" spanning the boundary line between Canada and the United States. On it there are no names of battles. But on it on either side the words 'Open for one hundred years' and 'May these doors never be closed.'"

Canada is worthily reviewed and we make the following interesting extracts:—

"Grand Chapter of Canada has suffered the pains of child-birth very frequently lately, but can console itself that it has turned out some lusty youngsters in which it may feel a just pride.

"It is still quite a strong and active Grand Body, and has evinced a wonderfully fine spirit in bidding its children God speed, and given them a dot.

"Roll call of Grand Representatives disclosed the presence of thirty-nine Legates. Alabama heads the list, R.E. Companion Edwin Smith being our Grand Representative to answer the call.

"In his very fine message the Grand First Principal, M.E. Companion R. H. Spencer, touches on the necessity of being ever alert, comments on the development going on in the Province, speaks of the purity of R. A. Principles, the pleasure of forgiveness, the need of co-operation, and reverently of the departed Companions.

"The Correspondence Report is the splendid work of Companion Ponton. Alabama, 1922, is under review and has excellent attention. He excerpts quite freely from the address of Grand High Priest Robert T. Word, and pays him deserved commendation."

He likes to break a lance of banter with the veteran M. Ex. Comp. Kies, of Connecticut, and says:—

"He was on the job and made an admirable report. Alabama has very scant notice and then he has the temerity to say there was no correspondence report, and to ask 'Where were you, Larry?' If he does not treat Alabama better Larry will be tempted to tell him it is none of his business anyway."

Under Georgia he finds this opportunity of expressing clean-cut views:—

"He thinks our attitude on education savours of the political. It is not politics, but self-preservation. The enemies of American public education are exceedingly active, politically and otherwise. Nothing suits their purposes better than that its friends remain quiescent. Alabama Masons do not purpose to let them get any advantage."

Under Ireland he is delightfully straightforward in expression of opinion:—

"There are spots where the religious fanaticism of many of the people and the unsettled condition of the country render it difficult for some of the Chapters to hold meetings. In fact some of the Chapter houses and Lodge rooms have been destroyed by these conditions. And yet these same people in other parts of the world protest loudly against religious, or faith, persecution. Their idea of tolerance may be expressed thusly: 'I am right and you are wrong. Where you are stronger you must tolerate me, because I am right. If I am stronger I must persecute you, because you are wrong, and it is my duty to extirpate error.'"

Our reviewer does not agree with Kansas and says:—

"It seems our business to carry into our every day lives those principles that we boast so of within our halls. We

remind the writer of the brother who occupies the amen corner in the church on Sundays, and says 'amen' to all the preacher says, and then entertains the devil at his place of business during the week. This will not save our own souls, much less help to save others.

"If Masonry is not duty in action it has no excuse for existence."

Under De Molay in the review of New Hampshire he thus comments:—

"Better look out or some one or something else may capture our boys. Masonry must get its recruits from the boys of to-day. Why not begin training them in time?"

He quotes with commendation from North Dakota:—

"Their Student's Loan Fund is growing in interest, in amount and in usefulness. It is real constructive work that ought to amount in usefulness as the years go by."

Knowing well Comp. Scott, we cannot resist reproducing the following paragraph under Rhode Island:—

"R.E. Wilbur A. Scott, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence submitted a report and it was ordered printed, but diligent search failed to disclose it. If Companion Scott writes like he talks, it would be good reading. The financial report would indicate that Grand Chapter was amply able to print."

Under the Aged Masons' Home in Texas he thus writes:—

"The Grand High Priest advocated a fixed per capita tax for the support of the Home. He was right from two stand-points; first, all bearing the burden equally, and the certainty of a large part of the income. Experience has demonstrated that both are necessary to the success of such institutions."

England and Scotland are included briefly but interestingly in his conclusion. We agree that until these Grand Jurisdictions honour their sister Jurisdictions by sending out a volume in style and form worthy of their substance, they cannot expect to be satisfactorily reviewed:—

"England and Scotland do not lend themselves easily to a review.

"However it is a pleasure to note that both of these supreme Grand Chapters are 'carrying on' in the erection of

Chapters in their far flung Jurisdictions, each occupying territory occupied by the other, and without quarrelling about it at all. Each continue their splendid charity work and educational assistance to worthy young people. It would be of interest to know the numerical strength of each Grand Chapter, but this scribe has never been able to get an accurate line on these figures.

"And so we reach the end of the journey with the pleasure of knowing that the Capitular world is moving forward with less discord than ever before in its recent history.

"Altogether the signs of the times are most encouraging."

The Order of High Priesthood met as usual.

Charles A. L. Johnstone, Mobile, Grand High Priest.

George A. Beauchamp, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

Lawrence H. Lee, Montgomery, Foreign Correspondent.

ALBERTA.

M. Ex. Comp. John E. Johnson, Grand Z.

Number on roll, 2,752.

Net gain, 41.

The Transactions are preceded by the experienced and friendly features of M. Ex. Comp. Johnson, whom with his fellow Companions, this reviewer well remembers.

A Special Convocation of Grand Chapter was held at Calgary, 29th May, 1924, to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the erection of Grand Chapter and the Proceedings constitute most interesting reading.

We are sorry that the Representative of Canada was not present either at this or the annual meeting.

The following distinguished visitors were welcomed: M. Ex. Comp. McCauley of Saskatchewan, R. Ex. Comp. Moulden of Manitoba and R. Ex. Comp. Adams of British Columbia.

From the brief but full address of Grand Z. Johnson we take the following impressive sentences:—

"Ten years ago the World was seemingly at peace. The Nations appeared to be working in harmony and scarcely a cloud could be found on the National sky, yet within a few months the Great War broke out and many of our most brilliant and beloved Brethren and Companions made the greatest of all sacrifices.

"Proudly you gathered, rank on rank to war,
As who had heard God's message from afar;
All you had hoped for, all you had you gave
To save Mankind—yourselves you scorned to save."

"Splendid you passed, the great surrender made,
Into the light that never more shall fade,
Deep your contentment in that blest abode,
Who wait the last clear trumpet call of God."

"Although the Armistice was signed and peace declared, the World has not yet regained the normalcy which has been so much desired and so constantly looked forward to. One ofttimes wonders if we, as Masons and more particularly as Royal Arch Masons are doing our utmost to assist in bringing closer the dawn of real peace.

"From a membership of 775 in 1914, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Alberta has grown to approximately twenty-seven hundred in 1924.

"The degree of perfection in ritualistic work together with brighter and more instructive convocations is bound to give the Companions of the Holy Royal Arch in this Jurisdiction, a more elevated opinion of our ceremonies and help to dispose of the false idea that our degrees are merely stepping stones to so-called higher branches of the Order."

Numbers of letters and telegrams were read, among them one from our own Henry T. Smith, of Toronto, and one from Lord Cassillis, First Grand Principal of Scotland.

M. Ex. Comp. Taylor was chosen to give a short history of Alberta and of the Royal Arch Degree and no one could have done it better as the following paragraph will show:—

"Commemoration of important and outstanding events in the history of the lives of men and institutions are of peculiar interest, especially to those who have been eye-witnesses and have had a share in these events, and none fraught with greater moment than the birth or bringing into existence of anything. Pioneers who blaze the path of civilization have their peculiar struggles. Founders of any great enterprise have their times of adversity. Their recompense is in the achievement of success of a worthy cause."

Almost the whole argument pro and con is given in connection with the formation and unfortunate misunderstandings that arose between the Mother Grand Chapter and the Companions of Alberta, all difficulties now happily healed. Some extracts may be illuminating from their point of view:—

“In 1905 political autonomy was granted to the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. In the same year, steps were taken to form Grand Lodges in each of these Provinces, and the same privileges were available to the various Chapters within these provinces, then, or as soon thereafter as conditions would warrant such action.

“Many precedents were quoted to prove that this same principle has been recognized by the Craft in the formation of supreme Masonic bodies in the United States of America.

“Since that time the most amicable relations have existed between these two Grand Chapters. We have greatly enjoyed the fraternal visits of M.E. Comp. Abraham Shaw, P.G.Z., and M.E. Comp. Wm. N. Ponton, G.Z., of that jurisdiction and our first Grand Principal was also most cordially received and highly entertained by M.E. Comp. Ponton and his officers at Port Arthur two years ago.”

With regard to General Conditions M. Ex. Comp. Taylor says, taking up at the same time the history of the Royal Arch as follows:—

“There is a healthy emulation amongst our various Chapters as to who can best work and best agree and a spirit of enthusiasm and harmony is manifest everywhere.

“Companions, we form but a single link in the great chain of Capitular Masonry which belts the world.

“Doubtless Laurence Dermott dismembered the third degree and to him we owe the establishment of English Royal Arch Masonry. Royal Arch Masonry as we now have it came from the fertile brain and intrepid heart of Dermott.

“Laurence Dermott, in his Ahiman Rezon or Constitution of the Ancients of 1756 says:—

“‘I firmly believe the Royal Arch to be the root, heart and marrow of Masonry.’ This opinion doubtless did much to popularize the degree.

“The glory of Masonry in the future, as in the past, its very endurance in unweakened and undying life, will rest on its faithfulness to its own grand principles, on its fidelity to its time-proved and time-honored traditions and landmarks, and on its continued ministry of beneficence to the world.”

A Gavel was presented by the Grand Z. of Saskatchewan.

R. Ex. Comp. Moulden representing Manitoba, said:—

“You are our eldest sister. We come from the same mother and consequently we are closely related. While we were formed, the installation of our officers was performed by an Excellent Companion from a Southern State, the State of North Dakota, because we could not get one from Ontario at the time, still we feel that Canada is Canada and that the children of Canada are all members of one family and should be closely knit together, more closely knit together than any foreign relationship which we can make.”

Other interesting addresses were made at the magnificent Banquet which was held with all the spirit of good fellowship of the west. We take the following from Comp. Taylor's reply to the toast:—

“We were pioneers in this work. There is only one regret, so far as I am concerned, with regard to this gathering and that is the fact that we are not honoured by a representative from our mother Grand Chapter, the Grand Chapter of Canada. We had the pleasure on several occasions in the past of welcoming the head of Capitular Masonry in Canada from that Grand Chapter but unfortunately their representative was not able to be present to-night.

“Masonry is essentially a character building institution. Someone has briefly said, ‘Isn't it strange that Princes and Kings, and Clowns that caper in sawdust rings and common folk like you and me are builders for Eternity? To each is given a bag of tools, a shapeless mass and a book of rules, and each must make ere life is flown, a stumbling block or a stepping stone.’ Therefore, my good Companions, it has been our privilege, it has been our opportunity, let us see to it that we live up to those privileges.”

M. Ex. Comp. Rankin said:—

“Now I am not going to say anything about the troubles which we have had. We never had any troubles in Alberta, not a particle; of course, there were dark days but the sun is always shining somewhere in the darkest days, and our sun was shining and it is shining to-day and it is going to shine as long as the Province of Alberta lasts.”

M. Ex. Comp. George McLeod added this contribution:—

“I am not prepared to admit that you have the best city in Alberta or the best city in the country, but I will admit that you have one of the best. We have another—the one up north. But I will say this, that you have here a bunch of the

very finest scouts to be found anywhere in the Province of Alberta or in any other part of this country."

From the address of M. Ex. Comp. Coote we take this sentence:—

"I say one of the greatest needs which we have to-day is a greater familiarity with the contents of that Volume of the Sacred law. I do not believe in my time, and I am not very old, and I believe we might go back over the last two or three centuries and I do not believe you will find a time where the leaves of the Bible have been turned as little as they have been in the last ten years. I firmly believe it is up to us to turn them a little more and to study them a little harder."

R. Ex. (now M. Ex.) Comp. Middleton told these stories with others:—

"If I remember rightly there is a story told about a Macleod citizen going to heaven. I know it is unusual, but in this case he went there, and of course the Proverbial St. Peter met him at the gate and said, 'Where did you say you came from?' and the man without hesitation said, 'Oh, I came from Macleod.' 'Well,' says St. Peter, 'you can come in but I don't think you'll like it.'"

"One thing that I also thought about in proposing this toast was a certain story which is told about Andrew Carnegie; he once asked, 'Which is the most important of the three, labour, brains or capital?' and naturally, being a Scotchman, he said, 'Well, which is the most important leg of a three-legged stool?'"

The Grand Z. of Saskatchewan said:—

"You have many privileges. You are a force in the community.

"So it is with men in their journey through life, if their station be high or low, it is the set of the sail which determines the goal, whither it be weal or woe."

And Comp. Moulden closed his speech with the following verses:—

"Myself."

"I have to live with myself and so
I want to be fit for myself to know.
I want to be able, as days go by,
Always to look myself straight in the eye.
I do not want to stand with the setting sun
And hate myself for the things I have done.
I want to go out with my head erect.
I want to deserve all men's respect.
To work in the struggle for fame and pelf,

I want to be able to like myself.
 I do not want to look at myself and know,
 That I am bluff and bluster, and empty show.
 I never can hide myself from me;
 I see what others may never see;
 I know what others may never know;
 I never could fail myself and so,
 Whatever happens I want to be
 Self-respecting and conscience free."

V. Ex. Comp. Lent added this contribution:—

"I find as I grow older that my sphere of usefulness is best served in making for myself in my own particular way those avenues that lead or point me to the best results."

And R. Ex. Comp. Stanley this:—

"With all the other Companions who are doing the real work and who are giving us a little bit to do here and a little bit to do there, we felt we were a part, of those who were doing some of the pioneer work, which was necessary for the establishment of Capitular Masonry on a better basis in this Western country and so to-day we stand well started on a good foundation, honourably laid, well laid and well built upon."

The Tyler's Toast was then drunk and Auld Lang Syne sung. I wish we in Ontario would more frequently use this comprehensive and far reaching Tyler's Toast.

The Eleventh Annual Convocation was held in Calgary, 11th March, 1925.

The Grand Z. gave an admirable address commencing thus:—

"The year through which we have passed has not been an eventful one—our increase in membership has been small but I believe we have increased in wisdom and knowledge and have gained a greater insight into the real aims and objects of our Order. Considering the hard times through which we have been passing, and realizing that this was a time for conservation instead of attempting to expand, I have endeavored to interest the Chapters in the study of our Capitular degrees, for which purpose I set aside a week in December when each Chapter was invited to devote an evening to the history and teachings of the Mark Master degree. Likewise in January and February, evenings were set aside for the Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees."

He details many visitations of interest and describes the welcome visit of M. Ex. Comp. Colonel Peter Spence, V.D., of Scotland. Closing his itinerary with the following stanza:—

“Since it has been my very joy to find
At every turning of the road,
The strong arm of a comrade kind,
To help me onward with my load;
And since I have no gold to give,
And love alone must make amends,
My only prayer is, while I live,
God make me worthy of my friends.”

He decided that a Companion who had years before taken out his demit and who is contemplating his removal from his present place of abode and is out of work and who has lived outside the Jurisdiction is not properly a candidate and being out of work the G.H.P. wisely suggests that:—

“His affiliation fees and annual dues may possibly be of use to him until he obtains employment.”

He concludes with these fine lines:—

“May fortune bless you; may the middle distance
Of your young life be pleasant as the foreground—
The joyous foreground; and when you have reached it,
May that which is the far-off horizon,
But which will then become the middle distance,
In fruitful promise be exceeded only
By that which will have opened in the meantime
Into a new and glorious horizon.”

The Grand Representatives were welcomed at the altar of the Royal Craft, which is thus described:—

“Its foundations are built upon truths which are eternal; and Capitular Masonry plays no mean part in the completion of this magnificent structure.”

Grand Scribe E. thus refers to a representative from Nebraska who keeps the touch:—

“The Grand Scribe E. stated that he wished to mention his thanks and appreciation of the deep interest taken by our Grand Representative, who sends the Grand First Principal and himself, letters, notices of important and social meetings, as well as beautiful souvenirs.”

The report of Grand Scribe E. Ironside, now Grand Second Principal, is full of interest. He says:—

“It would appear that the Chapters may now expect that the struggle for funds is fairly well past, if conditions continue to improve. The country Chapters seem to be doing better than those in the cities.

“A new unit was purchased for the oak sectional book-case used for the Grand Chapter Library, which is located in Grand Secretary Taylor’s office.”

The Committee on Fraternal Dead gave a unique report from which we make the following thoughtful extracts:—

“We too shall pass from the ken of our fellows, and only the things we have done that were worth while will be remembered in the hearts of men.

“Yesterdays” hold the full store of to-day’s civilization, our knowledge, our victories, and our defeats, but man’s yesterdays are not sufficient; the true, and the wise man binds all his days together, his yesterdays, to-days, and to-morrows, in one great holy purpose to serve man, and honor, and love God.”

Canada is represented by Comp. F. S. Watson of Edmonton and Alberta is represented by Comp. J. K. Brydon of Kenora.

From the introduction of the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence composed of Companions J. E. Johnson, S. Y. Taylor, and F. S. Selwood, we take this:—

“We have endeavored to place before you interesting decisions on Capitular law, the efforts of officers to increase attendance, efforts to raise the standard of degree work and other matters peculiarly indented with the Royal Craft.”

Alabama was pierced by the penetrating eye of Comp. Johnson in this fashion:—

“*Question.*—Brother —— was elected to the Chapter degrees, received the Mark Master and Past Master degrees and was stopped by a Companion of the Chapter from further advancement. He now requests a demit.

“*Ruling.*—That the Brother be granted a dismissal certificate and one-half of the fees paid by him be refunded.

“When the Brother awakens up he will likely ask the same question that the darkey did who fell out of the balloon, ‘Where am I at?’

"He issued a dispensation to ballot on a petition for affiliation on a namesake of the writer, aged 94 years. 'Some Johnson.'"

California furnishes the Committee of reviewers the following:—

"The attendance at any Chapter depends largely upon the vision, energy and intelligence of its High Priest; but if this officer functions properly, he will have no difficulty with securing a goodly attendance."

Canada is favourably reviewed and three long extracts are given from M. Ex. Comp. Spencer's commended address.

The report of the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry is thus spoken of with generous appreciation:—

"The report of the Committee on Condition of Capitular Masonry is signed by Comp. Ponton. It is unnecessary here to state that the report is a splendid one. We wish we had space to quote every line. His remarks on 'Interchange Visitations' between Grand Chapter Officers, follow:—

"'Our Masonic life is the richer through this interweaving of the magic carpet of Freemasonry—and while each retains his loyal allegiance to his own Flag and Mother Grand Chapter, the cords are lengthened and the stakes are strengthened in that good will among men that makes for peace among nations—peace, productive and permanent peace—peace in the centre and the circumference.'"

Colorado is quoted as to the authority of Grand Lodge over the Masons of the State:—

"Agitation against 'rushing' candidates through the bodies after receiving the degree of Master Mason is going on in a large number of states and Grand Masters have scored such methods to a finish. When the public and even Masons realize that there is no such thing as high Masons it will be a glorious day for Masonry. The highest Mason is not the one with a high numeral or a fez symbol of Islam, but the 'Master Mason.'"

Connecticut strikes a responsive cord:—

"Evidently Alberta is not the only Jurisdiction where it has been found that the making of members is not in the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry."

The recording of marks is emphasized under Indiana and the same State speaks of membership very satisfyingly as follows:—

“It is fine to get new material; it is finer to hold what we already have.”

These lines written by the crippled Potter are quoted under Iowa as follows:—

“The world is at its best, I feel
A triumph in the work I do.
With every turning of the wheel
I add a little that is new
To masses shapeless in the past
I even—I give shape—I bring
From the silent uselessness at last
The pleasing useful thing.
All that has been since first the light
Shot out across the gulfs of space
Was that my crowning labor might
Put something in its ordered place.
The sound the toiling thousands make
Is earth’s sublimest symphony
And I, a worker, proudly take
The part assigned to me.”

A graceful presentation of a jewel is thus recorded and conveys a beautiful lesson under Ohio:—

“This jewel is the usual Past Grand High Priest’s Jewel. I want to assure you that its sterling silver is not more sterling and refined than is the refinement of the recipient. Its pure gold is not more pure than is the affection and esteem of those authorizing its presentation. And both of these are not more enduring than is the fraternal esteem and regard of the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Ohio for you. And I ask you, sir, to accept this not only as a testimonial of the appreciation which we feel and have for your efforts, but as one of those little keepsakes or mementoes of your year of service, which we trust you may carry down with you as another bud, as it were, in the beautiful bouquet of pleasant memories.”

Virginia gives Alberta something which they call unique in an application for the approval of the Grand High Priest for the following purposes:—

“A request that their Adoniram Council, No. 2, be permitted to hold a “Special Session” for the purpose of confer-

ring the Degree of Super-Excellent Master in the Endless Caverns of your State."

The Twelfth Annual Convocation will be held in Banff 17th March, 1926.

M.E. Comp. Samuel H. Middleton, Cardston,
Grand First Principal Z.

R.E. Comp. Clifford R. Wentzel, Grand Scribe E.

ARIZONA.

Frank Thomas, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 1,306.

Net gain, 36.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation was held in the Masonic Hall in the City of Phoenix, 10th February, 1925.

The next Annual is to be held in February, 1926, in the City of Tucson.

A wonderful array of Past Grand High Priests, 16 in number, the largest proportion of any Jurisdiction considering numerical strength, offered the experience of the past to the services of the present.

R. Ex. Comp. James H. Barrett represented Canada. R. Ex. Comp. Haentschel, Haileybury, an enthusiastic Mason, represents Arizona near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Grand High Priest in his address regrets that he was unable to visit the various Chapters of the State as apparently it seemed impossible for him to find the time for this purpose and he relied upon the good work of his predecessors. We fear that if we all did this there would be no progress in our "royal science and noble art." Everything, however, appears to have been carried on to the satisfaction of the Companions, and the Grand High Priest says:—

"Peace and harmony seem to prevail in our Jurisdiction, as no grievances have been reported to me nor have I been called on to render a decision worthy of note.

"Death, in whose shadow we ever dwell, has invaded our ranks and it is my sorrowful duty to report the transition

into a fuller life of the following beloved Companions of our Jurisdiction:

"It is said that 'Death loves a shining mark.' This quotation is justified in recording the passing to the Great Beyond of our beloved Companion and friend, Dr. Wm. F. Kuhn, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America.

"'To be great is to be good,' and Dr. Kuhn was both. Capitular Masonry suffered a distinct loss in the death of our Most Excellent Companion."

The gain of 36 while a falling off in number, is treated as a challenge, and he says:—

"This showing should not discourage us but should stimulate a more earnest effort in the interests of our Royal Craft."

He thanks the Grand Secretary "whose watchful eye and guiding hand are always to be depended upon in time of need."

The Committee on Necrology conclude their report in these words:—

"Furthermore, we would *resolve*, That the customary pages in our printed proceedings be set apart as a memorial to all those, our Companions, who have gone before during the past year, and that a special mention be made of our share in Masonry's loss in the taking away of our M.E. Companion Kuhn."

Among the decisions recorded under regulations of Grand Chapter are the following:—

"That it is illegal and improper to confer any of the Capitular degrees on Sunday.

"That a Stated Meeting of a Chapter can not be "called off" to a subsequent day or evening.

"An objection is valid when made by a Companion to the advancement of a Brother, if it is simply lodged as such, without any reason or ground given therefor."

The Order of High Priesthood duly met. They have two outstanding Masons as Honorary and Life Members, namely, M. Ex. Comp. Fay Hempstead, of Arkansas, and M. Ex. Comp. Conover, of Michigan.

There is no Correspondence Report.

Bay of Quinte Masons especially appreciate the kindness of Arizona Brethren and Companions to R. W. Bro. and Ex. Comp. Sir Gilbert Parker, who in

days of illness, resided for two seasons within the hospitable and healthful confines of Arizona.

M.E. Nelson Charles Bledsoe, Bisbee, Grand High Priest.

R.E. George J. Roskruge, Tucson, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

George H. Parson, M.E. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 8,044.

Net gain, 538.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was held in Albert Pike Memorial Temple in Little Rock, November 20, 1924. No less than 14 Past Grand High Priests reported for faithful duty, among them such continentally well known names as Hampstead, Bone, Olney and others.

Canada was represented by Ex. Comp. J. L. Davis.

A letter was read from Comp. C. N. Rix who had been elected but through age and infirmity had declined the office of General Grand High Priest of the United States, and Comp. Whipple spoke in glowing terms of him, eulogizing his character and self-sacrifice.

The Grand Secretary read a long and touching telegram from David M. Drury, the representative of Arkansas in New York, always faithful. Would that there were more like him!

From the address of the G.H.P. we cull these sentences with regard to both the living and the dead:—

“As Grand High Priest, I greet you as workmen most rare and extend to you a cordial and sincere welcome, but I enjoin upon you to put aside all feeling of discord and confusion, and at this particular time all feelings of political strife and disappointments, and may Holiness to the Lord prevail in all our thoughts, words and actions, and may the Supreme Architect of the Universe guide and direct us in our deliberations. As to Dr. Kuhn and the triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America. I was there in the body and I am more than sure

he was there in spirit. The young may die and the old must die and the wisest know not how soon. The youngest Entered Apprentice in the northeast corner dwells ever in the Shadow of Death, while the same invisible Hand extends equally over King Solomon seated upon his ivory throne."

As to Dispensations for which Arkansas has been criticized on the ground of too little back-bone, the Grand High Priest says in his defence:—

"Companions we have been severely criticised by the Committees on Foreign Correspondence or our Sister Jurisdictions on our liberal policy of granting dispensations and I will of course come in for my share probably even more severe, as I have been more liberal on account of instituting the new offices for District Deputy Grand High Priests."

From the decisions as to demits we take the following as examples:—

"If the Companion desire a dimit and is in good standing on the books you will grant him a regular dimit. It is of course optional with him whether he puts it in any other Chapter or not. If he does not in course of time, he becomes a willful nonaffiliate and is not entitled to any Masonic honors.

"Application for a dimit must be read before the Chapter on a regular and stated convocation. The High Priest can then declare that dimit will be issued if there is no objections, but the applicant must be free from all charges either financial or moral, before the dimit is issued."

The visit to the General Grand Chapter at Portland, Maine is very vividly described at length. Evidently the G.H.P. not merely observes and records but shares his experiences most generously.

In his conclusion he reminds the Companions of their undertaking to the late Comp. Kuhn on his visit and says:—

"I hope you have been true to your promise to him and have discontinued this rough horse play which so detracts from the sublime ceremony of the discovery of the lost Master's Word. As he told us it was his one theme."

The Committee on Memorials to the Dead write as follows:—

"Truly, but thinly a veil intervenes between that fair city and me."

From the frontispiece of the Memorial Tablets we take this inscription on the Mourning Monument:—

“HOLINESS TO THE LORD

On Death's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread
While memory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.

“I will make all My goodness pass before thee.”

We note that the word “Death's” has been substituted for “Fame's” but after all why not leave it as the original for

“The path of duty is the way to glory.”

Canada is represented near the Grand Chapter of Arkansas by Comp. Jeff L. Davis and Arkansas is represented with us by Comp. T. W. Chapple of Kenora.

The Report on Correspondence is by M. Ex. Comp. Mark P. Olney, who yearly furnishes his Companions of the Round Table an ideal of concentrated excellence. Few extracts, many comments, no superfluous expletives, adverbs and adjectives eliminated, and nothing but boiled down results with an occasional wise remark which is tantalizing. We want more. In his introduction he says:—

“Herewith is submitted my fourth annual report as Committee on Correspondence or Review. The duty becomes more of a pleasure from year to year as we become acquainted with the family of the Round Table and things draw us closer as the years go by.

“The new General Grand Chapter ritual seems to be gaining in favor rather than losing with the years. Some states are going back to their old rituals but for the most part those who have adopted the new ritual are staying with it.”

Under Alberta he writes:—

“Refused to permit a local Chapter to work a candidate for Ohio who had not taken any of the degrees. We notice some states will not confer degrees unless the first has been conferred at home.”

We call Comp. Olney's attention to the fact that we have no Order of High Priesthood in the majority of Canadian Jurisdictions.

Canada is accorded gracious note and comment:—

"Our representative, we note, did not get there. Grand Z. gave an excellent address. Every Chapter made report and paid dues. Loss 3,002 which occurred by withdrawal of 3,948 Companions in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. This makes a gain of 946 virtually. Sketches and picture of W. H. Davis, the incoming First Principal, age 61, Taught school a long time and later in insurance business and politics. Is treasurer of the city of Hamilton now."

"Review by William Ponton. He gives us two pages, a very kindly notice both as Grand Chapter and a reviewer. Personally I have always liked Toronto and as I have often said, think it is the best 'Sunday observing large city' I have ever visited as I had the pleasure some years ago of spending some days there and at Hamilton and was in Toronto over Sunday. It is also close to me as my wife's parents are both natives of Ontario Province."

In Colorado we glean this interesting fact:—

"Have a committee of soldiers and sailors welfare whose duty it is to visit the Fitzsimmons Hospital and Ft. Lyon Hospital. Maximum number of patients at Fitzsimmons is 1,542 in 18 wards. This is the largest tubercular hospital in the world and the committee has done much good in its work. Spent some five thousand dollars for flowers and other things for comfort."

Idaho gives occasion for these pleasant personal remarks to a colleague:—

"Review by George Knepper. He says we cannot write much with sense, which is true. Gives us a nice account of Companion Fay Hempstead receiving honours in Arizona and my presenting him with his badge. Yes, Fay is our own product, born and reared in Arkansas and has attained his fame both as a Mason and a poet and will now within a few days preside in the General Grand Council at Portland."

Brief and succinctly a phase of Indiana's Proceedings is thus produced:—

"The fee is \$5.00 and Bibles are furnished."

Under Maine the personality of our confrère comes out well:—

"The reviewer was very kind in his word of your humble servant and it will be a great disappointment to me not being

able to come to Portland and can only wish that I might have been included with Comp. Bone in the resolution of those going. His words remind me of the saying, 'If you have roses for me, let me smell them now, and not deliver them when I am dead.'

As to Quarterly meetings in Massachusetts and other Grand Jurisdictions who thus divide up the year he says and adds his tribute to the Grand Secretary as follows:—

"We are led to wonder if having so many meetings during the year does not detract from the interest there would be were only one held, it being the annual occasion.

"One of the largest Grand Chapters and among the largest copy of proceedings but withal an excellent volume and speaks well for the Grand Secretary and his force and the workmanship in the printing of it is excellent."

He has a yearning for sympathy which we all feel:—

"We appreciate a kind word now and then along the way of life, as they come to many of us so seldom."

Pennsylvania affords him this opportunity: —

"Books of the law spoken of in the work decided to be the Ten Commandments in Hebrew."

South Dakota brings out a friendly reference to that pedigree of which we are all not always outspokenly proud:—

"He gives us a page and a half but gets my name wrong, Mark D., instead of Mark P. The P. stands for Preston, my maternal grandmother, who was the first white child born in the northwest territories. This reminds me of some more history. My wife is said to be the first white child born in Mitchell, South Dakota."

The excerpts from his review of Virginia must close this brief survey:—

"There are no names attached to show who is who in the picture. They possibly know all of them so thinks we are not interested. Recognition of De Molay refused. They use committee of the whole to handle their business before Grand Chapter.

Fielding W. Harris, Grand High Priest.

John C. Bone, Batesville, Grand Secretary-Lecturer.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

M. Ex. Comp. V. W. Stewart, Grand Z.
Membership, 2,437.
Net increase, 61.

A biography and portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Stewart precede the Proceedings.

An Emergent Communication was held June 17, 1924, for the purpose of exemplification of the various degrees. Satisfaction was expressed at the efficient work.

The Sixth Annual Convocation was held in Vancouver, 18th June, 1924.

Four Past Grand Z.'s were present.

Canada was worthily represented by M. Ex. Comp. H. H. Watson.

The Grand Z.'s address was commendably brief but full of matter. From it we take the following:—

“May He, the Great I Am, guide and direct us in our deliberations, and be the inspiration for the work we must carry on in the days to come and may that work be such as He would have us do. It is only as one passes through the responsibilities of this high office that we realize the opportunity for service and the advancement of Truth and righteousness which our beautiful Ritual endeavours to exemplify.”

He desires the Companions to exercise particular care as emphasized in the following among other notifications:—

“The attention of several Chapters was called to the fact that the names and numbers of the lodges from which petitioners for degrees hailed had not been placed in the summons. The Chapters immediately rectified the omission in subsequent notices.”

As to arrears of dues he says:—

“The Grand Superintendents of the several Districts, in support of my appeal, have done yeoman work in having the arrears of dues reduced.”

He made many visits, travelling many miles, and doing good work. He makes the following recommendation:—

"I beg to recommend that District No. 4 be divided, and a new District created to the East of the Kootenay Lake. At the present time, the long distance of travelling is a handicap to the Grand Superintendent of the District and militates against proper supervision."

The Grand Superintendent's reports are interesting.

The Grand Registrar in his report says:—

"The real foundation of Royal Arch Masonry in British Columbia was laid on February 10th, 1867, at a meeting of Royal Arch Masons called to discuss the advisability of forming a Chapter."

A recommendation from the Printing Committee that the Proceedings be not printed this year except the Treasurer's Report was not adopted and was ordered struck out by Grand Chapter, of which we are glad.

A long and interesting correspondence is inserted in full regarding Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and from the report of the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence we take the following:—

"A resolution to adopt the report was submitted to the Grand Chapter and was unanimously adopted, following which warm and sincere congratulations and good wishes for future prosperity were extended to the two new Grand Chapters by the Grand Z., M.E. Companion Ponton."

With regard to Klondike Chapter, Dawson in the Yukon, our one child on the Pacific Coast, we read this communication:—

"That the application of Klondike Chapter to become a Constituent Chapter of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of British Columbia receive the favourable consideration of this Grand Chapter.

"That the said number of 52 life members on the roll of Klondike Chapter at the date of April 17th, 1924, be life members under this Jurisdiction."

The next place of meeting will be at Kamloops.

The Grand Representatives were received with all the honours.

The prayer of a petitioner was not granted under the following circumstances:—

"That my present occupation entails continuous travelling, chiefly through the United States.

"That my family is also itinerating."

From the In Memoriam cards to the memory of the Fraternal Dead we take the following:—

"And if, through patient toil, we reach the land,
Where tired feet, with sandals loosed, may rest,
When we shall clearly know and understand,
I think that we shall say, 'God knew the best.'"

British Columbia's representative in Canada is R.W. Bro. E. M. Carleton, Toronto.

The Report on Correspondence is by Bro. J. W. Prescott, his fifth consecutive output of friendly visitations and intercourse.

From his introduction the following paragraphs will be found of interest:—

"Sister Grand Chapters in all parts of the world have taken cognizance of the great changes and rapid progress being made in the western part of this great Dominion of Canada and the manner in which Freemasonry has kept pace with the general growth of the country.

"The Grand Chapter of Canada, one of the grandest Masonic bodies in the civilized world, has mothered the various geographical divisions of the Dominion with Grand Chapters for each Province as the opportunity offered—and now with its wonderful membership, has only one Province, the good old Province of Ontario, in its Jurisdiction.

"It is a matter of much appreciation to Freemasons throughout Canada that the Grand Chapters in the older portions of the North American continent have been warmly outspoken in the cordiality of their good wishes for the progress and happiness of the new Grand Chapters. True Freemasonry is being developed to the glory of God and the benefit of mankind."

Alberta, his next door neighbour, receives this comment:—

"The report of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence consists of interesting items culled from the Proceedings of sister Jurisdictions, being extracts from addresses and decisions of presiding officers, all more or less informative, but not conveying the satisfactory information that a complete review of Proceedings would provide.

"Besides which his 'topical' form, so called, does not give the Masonic student or critic an opportunity to learn by comparison what progress other Jurisdictions are making."

Canada is reviewed in kindly fashion. He quotes R. Ex. Comp. Carleton's reply on behalf of the Grand Representatives in 1924, and points out that the Grand Z.'s address was interesting in many ways as indicating the noble mission of the Royal Craft. Our reviewer says:—

"His rulings were perfectly sound.

" 'That Royal Arch Masons may not parade with other organizations clothed as Royal Arch Masons.'

" 'That an applicant must be cleared of any charges made against him before being advanced.' "

The reviewer concludes as follows:—

"The Benevolence Committee disbursed \$3,090 in relief.

"The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is written by the Chairman, Companion Ponton, who has devoted much time and consideration to a review of the various Jurisdictions.

"He quotes very fully from the address of M.E. Companion Sherwin which he considers very satisfying, and also appears to like our Correspondence Report."

Under Delaware he advocates the conservation of the old records, of which Canada possesses many:—

"The report of the Committee on Old Chapter Records showed success in bringing to light one minute book, explaining that there might be more but it was unable to locate them; emphasizing the necessity of securing important information while it is in existence."

We note the following under Manitoba:—

"The good fellowship existing between the Grand Chapter of Manitoba and that of North Dakota was further cemented by each body electing two officers of the other to honorary membership, as well as the usual exchange of Grand Representatives."

He comments upon Bro. Parton's review and likes his style and adds:—

"We note, however, that he is still a bachelor, which may explain much."

Minnesota gives this opportunity for quotation:—

"In his 'Foreword' he recommends Freemasons to adopt a middle course as between the two classes—radical and conservative.

"The former class—not satisfied with the existing order of things—desires innovations, while the latter class see only evil coming out of practical interest in the affairs of the outside world.

"Well informed Masons will do the right thing, therefore our greatest work is to enlighten our own members."

Under Nevada we cull this direct statement of opinion evidently well thought out:—

"I know I may be called to task for what I am about to say but, whether I am or not, it is my firm belief that the calling to your attention the second subject—the too-often indifference of our people to our laws and courts—would be entirely unnecessary if our schools were more thorough in their teaching of love and obedience to our Country and its laws and respect—one people for another."

"This is my creed: To close my eyes
To little faults of those around me;
To strive to be when each day dies
Some better than the morning found me.
To keep my standards always high,
To find my task and always do it;
This is my creed! Come let us try
And strive to shape our action to it."

Of the Correspondence Report he says:—

"The reports are of undoubted value as an exchange medium of information. The usefulness of correspondence reports does not wholly depend upon frequent reading. Such reports write history, for they are witnesses of the times prepared and preserved for future reference, a record of present-day facts and events from which some future historian will glean the progress of our great Fraternity."

From the abridged address of M. Em. Comp. Rev. A. T. Holden, of Victoria, Australia, which he quotes in full, we take this searching sentence:—

"We are pledged to preserve inviolate our secrets and mysteries; but, at the same time, we are part of the world around us and must recognize the relation that we necessarily sustain to our surroundings. To what extent is Freemasonry justified in revealing itself to the world? In what way may we fulfil our obligations to the community?

"I wish to say, first of all NOT in blatant display of Masonic regalia and emblems."

The proximity of Washington to our own British Columbia is well indicated in the following:—

"The address of the Grand High Priest is interesting in several ways, first because, living at Bellingham, as he does, he is our nearest neighbour, and has visited among the Freemasons in Vancouver, second, because the doings of a next door neighbour are often of importance, and third, for the value and information to be derived from the business-like presentation which he made of the affairs of his Jurisdiction."

From the Grand Orator's address he quotes and we pass it on to our readers:—

"Masonry is comparable to a temple. All temples have a foundation and a superstructure. The foundation of Masonry is laid in God and His eternal truth, and the temple proper is built of Man, polished, purified and beautified. A temple is significant of beauty, both internally and externally."

The last page of the Proceedings contain a poem found written on the door of an old cabin in Southern Nevada, of which we cite the first and last verses:—

"Mornin' on the desert, and the wind is blowin' free,
And it's ours, jest for the breathin', so let's fill up, you and me.

No more stuffy cities, where you have to pay to breathe,
Where the helpless human creatures move and throng and strive and seethe.

Lonesome? Well, I guess not! I've been lonesome in a town,
But I sure do love the desert with its stretches wide and brown.

All day through the sagebrush here the wind is blowin' free,
An' it's ours jes for the breathin', so let's fill up, you and me."

M.E. Comp. Frank C. Bird, Vancouver, Grand Z.

R.E. Comp. John W. Prescott, Vancouver, Grand Scribe E.

CALIFORNIA.

Rudolph Beck, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 23,546.

Gain, 1,449.

The Proceedings are preceded by a portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Beck and a list of the Officers of the General Grand Chapter of which Charles Arthur Conover, of Coldwater, Michigan, is General Grand Secretary.

The following note is printed as an addendum to the titles of bodies composed exclusively of Masons:—

“Knights Templar system of Great Britain and the Colonies—do not confer the ‘Order of the Red Cross’ known to the United States system, except in Canada.”

And in large print the Proceedings are thus handed over in trust to the officers of the constituent Chapters:—

“A copy of these Proceedings is mailed to the High Priest and Secretary of each Chapter within this Grand Jurisdiction. At each meeting of the Chapter, whether stated or special, the Secretary’s copy should be on his desk and at the service of those present.

The Seventy-first Annual Convocation was held in San Francisco, April 21, 1925.

Canada’s Grand Representative did not answer the roll call.

Five veteran survivors of the earthquake and fire of April 18, 1906, were specially presented and honoured as thus recorded:—

“The Past Grand High Priests of the Grand Chapter of California, Grand Representatives, Earthquake and Fire Survivors, and Distinguished Visitors, were cordially welcomed by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and greeted with the Grand Honors of Royal Arch Masonry by Three Times Three.

Among the distinguished visitors present were Albert Knight, Past Grand Master, R. and S.M. of Rhode Island; the General Grand Royal Arch Captain; and the Grand Commander of Knights Templar.

Grand Master Reese in his response touched upon our vital relationship as follows:—

“It is an honour and a privilege thus to be received by this Grand Body of Masons, co-ordinating with our Grand Lodge. I do not consider this Body as a separate and distinct organization or an organization foreign to our Grand Lodge because, my Companions, we are first and before all else Master Masons, and our very existence specifically depends entirely upon the prerequisite of Masonic membership, and I address you not only as Companions but as Master Masons of this great State. I most certainly believe that each one of you recognizes and exemplifies his devotion and loyalty to

the Lodge, and as a Master Mason meeting your obligations thereto. If I have any fault to find with Chapter Masons it is in allowing themselves to become merely stepping stones to the Commandery or so-called higher degrees instead of making the Chapters active and dominant factors in the Masonic organization responsible for law and order and distinctive in our communities, making them in fact what they should be—real active forcible bodies of Masonry, a part of the community.”

The Grand High Priest in his address speaks truly of the magnificent Temple in San Francisco where so much wonderful Masonic history has been enacted and recorded.

He commends to the thought of his Companions nevertheless the idea of welcoming the invitations from cities outside the Capital.

He speaks of the military devolution of authority of his well organized Grand Chapter as consisting of Brigadier Generals and Major General.

The Earl of Cassillis was duly welcomed on June 24th.

The Grand Chapter did not lose a single Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer during the year, but he refers to the universal loss of Dr. Kuhn as follows:—

“The Royal Craft has met with an irreparable loss. A brilliant light has been extinguished. A noble work inaugurated has been left uncompleted. He will always be regarded as a Mason with a record of accomplishments.”

By circular letters he urged the sympathetic co-operation of the Royal Craft in the defence test of the United States on the Pacific held 1924, and also in the peaceful Public Schools Week which was universally observed.

He refused a Dispensation for Divine Service in Regalia giving as his reason:—

“It would seem that Church services would not come within the category of a strictly Masonic ceremony or that attendance thereat is a strictly Masonic duty. Such being the case, it is not permissible to wear Capitular clothing.”

This will please M.E. Comp. Davis, our own Grand Z.

His visitations were simply innumerable. He speaks of the Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer as “those two stalwart bulwarks in the Royal Arch.”

From the conclusion of the Grand Lecturer's report we excerpt the following words of wisdom and of cheer:—

"Companions, before taking up the work of our convocation, let us not forget that we are all *Masons*—members of a world-wide and world-renowned institution—one that is founded upon the most inspiring and uplifting principles ever enunciated by man; that we are here banded together by ties of brotherly love, and of more than ordinary friendships, all striving to attain the same great worthy objects, and all bound by the most solemn vows to promote each other's welfare and each other's happiness. And with these obligations before us, let us here more strongly cement those friendships, let us make this coming together and our conduct with our Companions be a pledge of our continued loyalty to Masonry, and by our acts and conduct in this meeting prove ourselves worthy members of our great institution. Let us make this co-mingling with each other mean something of value to each of us and to our Chapters, and out of these friendships let us take home with us something of good which we may disseminate to others—something that is constructive, something material and real for the instruction and help of others, and something also which will bring sunshine and gladness, happiness and good cheer to our fellow man."

Upon his installation the new Grand High Priest King said with a determination which we all feel but are not all able to carry out:—

"I expect to arrange my personal affairs so that I will have practically the whole year to attend to Chapter matters and make such visitations as you may desire. I feel it may be necessary to visit some of the weaker Chapters two or three times in order to get them going in the right way. I want to see every Chapter in the State make some kind of gain in membership, and would like to shake the hand of every Royal Arch Mason in the State before another year rolls around."

From the In Memoriam Tablets we take this paragraph which is unusual:—

"The body decays, and its atoms return to the elements from which they were borrowed. Each element reclaims its own, to put it to new uses. But the soul still lives, and its life here has been a part of its immortality. This is the faith and the conviction of Freemasons. It is enough that we have the certainty of this; and we need not repine or lament because we can know no more; for the veil which conceals from

us that which is to be after death, is no more impenetrable than that which hides from us the events of to-morrow.

“Beautiful life is that whose span
Is spent in duty to God and man.
Beautiful calm when the course is run;
Beautiful twilight at set of sun;
Beautiful death with a life well done.”

Roland English Hartley, of San Francisco, is our Grand Representative, and Joseph W. Rogers of Toronto, represents California near us.

An interesting table of statistics showing the membership by Grand Jurisdictions in the various Masonic Bodies, occupies some pages and sums up the results of considerable arithmetical research. Canada's apparent loss is specially explained in a foot note, as due to the birth of our two twin daughters.

The Committee on Correspondence under the Chairmanship of Max. A. Plumb follows California's usual custom of a subjective Review. We must confess that we find it very interesting as we accustom ourselves to it and Comp. Plumb does not show any evidence of weakness or deviation from the line in his struggle for existence.

His introduction furnishes us with the following, incidentally alluding to Manitoba and Saskatchewan:—

“To all appearances, the Royal Craft is determined to make the degree work more dignified and hence more attractive to the average member.

“Grand Orators generally have called attention to the tendency to lawlessness and indifference which still confronts us. As long as Canada leads the way, the rest of us will have no disposition to do anything but receive them with cordiality.

“Several Grand Chapters have discussed the Order of De Molay with more or less interest and enthusiasm. Many of us believe that this Order will be of lasting benefit to our youth, but it will take time to demonstrate the truth of his.

“Peace and harmony seem to pervade the entire Capitular world, and we can now give our energy and attention to the discussion of plans and ideas which will make Royal Arch Masonry a real power in the world.”

Among the addresses of distinguished visitors is quoted that of Grand High Priest Dutcher, of New York, delivered in Toronto as follows:—

"We must bear in mind, whether we hail from one particular division or another, that in the main the great strain of the Anglo-Saxon blood and the English language, civilization, liberties and conceptions of law and order, which are peculiarly manifested in the English-speaking nations are expressed in the two great state papers, the Magna Charta and the Constitution of the United States.

"We spring from one source; we are brothers, journeying along life's pathway; meeting the trials and troubles to which all mankind is subject. We here are bound by, if not a greater tie, at least an equal tie, one of a common fraternity, a common companionship and brotherhood; and so long as the Masonic fraternity of America goes hand in hand with the Masonic fraternity of the Dominion, united in purpose, in thought, working upon a common problem—so long and no longer, are the principles for which both nations stand in the western hemisphere safe and secure."

Massachusetts gives him the following central pivot:—

"There is crying need for a rallying point for all who love manhood, country and God.

"It must be an altar—a place where we stand in reverent recognition of deity—but it must be broad and tolerant so that none parts with his personal convictions or his private judgment."

Again M. E. Comp. Dutcher, of New York, is drawn upon to illustrate the ideals of the *American* home, but surely those homes may or should be found in every civilized country:—

"We are confronted to-day with the evidence that the American home life is being broken down, that the religious atmosphere that ought to be there is absent, and that those lessons of respect for law and order and reverence for established authority are untaught. Over and over am I confronted with the fact that of the delinquent juveniles of our country sixty per cent. are coming from homes not American. Not necessarily that these homes are the homes of the foreign-born."

Canada is again chosen as pointing out the real mission of the Chapter and these words of the Grand Z. are printed with others:—

"Every Companion irregular in his attendance deprives himself of many benefits. No one whose heart is pervaded with the spirit of true fraternalism can attend any Chapter meeting without gaining many valuable thoughts and views,

as well as a closer social contact with his fellow members. The experience of others enlightens encourages, and stimulates him to new and higher ideals.

From Louisiana we cull this sentence:—

“When our people develop social vices, when they forget the history of the origin and development of the nation, and the basis upon which it is instituted or founded, when they lose the qualities of patriotism, love of country and pride of race then our country will begin to deteriorate and disintegrate.”

Kansas’ note of defiance to Bolsheviks is thus quoted:—

“To many, the Constitution of the United States is but a “scrap of paper,” and instructions have lately been issued from a certain country that the red flag must fly over the Capitol of our country instead of our own Stars and Stripes, and the degrading, damning principles and ideals of anarchy and bolshevism be substituted for constitutional government and law. God forbid!”

He speaks of the bouquets and brick-bats which he receives owing to his peculiar style of report, the latest friendly blow being from M.E. Comp. Jermane of the District of Columbia which (with Virginia) he parries thus:—

“In the words of our ‘box fighters,’ he ‘fetched this one up from the floor,’ and if he had not swung quite so hard perhaps it would not have been shattered. He seems not to realize that I am trying to suit my California Companions instead of the knights of the round table.

“However, I know that what they throw is not at me but at the type of report that they do not like, and I am quite certain could I but visit Companions Jermane and Egglestone of Virginia, I should be received with that royal hospitality which those of the South know so well how to extend, including, if such a thing is yet possible there, a fragrant mint julep.”

From recent personal experience I agree.

He then quotes the bouquets which he has received from Massachusetts, New York and Florida, New York’s praise being very practical as follows:—

“Finally we notice a very timely and praiseworthy recommendation copied from South Carolina in which the Finance Committee recommended that the Foreign Correspondent be paid \$500 instead of \$300 which had been paid to him. We

are familiar with the reports of the Correspondent of South Carolina and have no hesitancy in saying that the amount was well deserved and abundantly earned."

He then dismisses the subject with a comment of rosiest hue in the following words:—

"Perhaps I ought to have captioned this section with 'Thorns and Roses' instead of the one I did use because this little couplet from a popular writer just about expresses the situation:

"This world that we are living in
Is mighty hard to beat,
We get a Thorn with every Rose,
But ain't the roses sweet?"

As to the collective ballot Comp. Plumb has decided views which may be thus condensed:—

"The fact that collective balloting deviates from the 'original plan of Masonry' is no good argument against it. When that 'plan' was adopted, Lodges or Chapters probably never had more than two or three petitions at the most, and the possibility of twenty-five at a meeting was not foreseen. Why should the men who drew up the 'original plan' be expected to legislate for all time? To the best of my knowledge and belief, there are no landmarks in Capitular Masonry; at least no one has yet had the temerity to catalogue them as has been done in Symbolic Masonry where the variation in number is from seven to fifty-four.

"I suggest to the Illinois Companions, our method in use in the Chapters in California of balloting on a group and declaring the names in that group elected if no cube appears. If one does appear, the High Priest may divide the names into two groups, proceeding to declare elected, or to subdivide as before, provided, however, that no group shall contain less than three names which are then balloted on singly. This may sound cumbersome, but in practice it is so only on very rare occasions. Moreover, it is permissive and not obligatory. The High Priest may use up several hours in voting on names singly if he pleases."

He expresses his agreement with M.E. Comp. Briggs of New York in this:—

"I have become also absolutely and unqualifiedly opposed to the conferring of three degrees upon the same class in one evening. This is a condition which obtains in many Chapters. More than once have I threatened that if I ever had the power I would deal this evil a death blow."

As to delinquent dues Comp. Plumb says:—

"If he inquired into the conditions more closely, he would probably find that in those Chapters which had little trouble with dues, there was an efficient Secretary. It is a fine plan to have a special committee on delinquents whose duty it is to interview the delinquent Companion."

Under DeMolay he quotes from and comments on Wisconsin as follows:—

"Only the other day a DeMolay boy from an adjoining state was taken up by the police department for vagrancy, and had it not been for a Masonic under-sheriff getting in touch with me, he would now have been serving a ninety-day term in the house of correction, instead of which he is back in his home and again attending school. This boy's father is dead, but he was a Mason."

"It must be remembered that it is not easy to straighten in the oak the crook that grows in the sapling. A tree will not only lie as it falls, but it will fall as it leans. Nobility of character is formed while the mind is still plastic and before it becomes set."

Education offers him a wide field:—

"At present, education, or the lack of it, is being considered under two heads—educational loan funds and Masonic education. A number of Grand Chapters now administer loan funds, either in connection with other Masonic bodies, or by themselves. They all report success; loans are being repaid, increased amounts are being added."

Canada is again heard from and we are pleased to have furnished a reservoir of thought and suggestion:—

"Here are two excellent suggestions for us from Past Grand Z. Ponton in his report on Condition of Capitular Masonry. Robes and paraphernalia cost too much nowadays to be easily replaced in case of loss by fire.

"Sixteen Chapters have no insurance. Experience is a hard teacher. Better have insurance and not want it than want insurance and not have it.

"Local registers of nights of meeting of Chapters and Lodges are recommended to be printed, framed and hung in the offices of leading local hotels, so that the stranger within your gates may realize and take advantage of the opportunity of visiting with you. This is not publicity—it is welcoming good fellowship. Know and be known."

With regard to smoking and the distribution of cigars generally during the opening speeches or the singing of the most delightful songs, this reviewer

has often in his public utterances commented, and we are delighted to receive the co-operative support of Comp. Plumb. The collective distribution of cigars at the time on which it usually occurs is both a waste of money, a violation of courtesy, a thickener of atmosphere and a throttle of thought, not that anyone objects to smoking, but let everything be done decently and in order. Let us use the weed and not abuse it and use our own.

Under Missouri Comp. Plumb says:—

“One good method of pruning expense is to let members bring their own smoke material. Many of us are wedded to our own brands, and at a banquet we smoke our own and put the Chapter cigar in our pockets to give to our enemies later. Many of us prefer a pipe anyhow. ‘Roll your own’ is a good motto.”

Charles H. King, M.E. Grand High Priest.

Thomas A. Davies, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

William O. Shelley, M.E. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 16,152.

Net gain, 393.

The portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Shelley opens the Proceedings.

The One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation was held in Hartford, May 12th, 1925. Fourteen Past Grand High Priests strengthened and adorned the East.

Our old and faithful friend, M. Ex. Comp. George N. Delap, represented Canada at the altar.

Of the 44 Chapters 44 were represented—Connecticut's usual record attendance.

Under an escort of Past Grand High Priests headed by the well known and well remembered names of M. Ex. Companions DeKlyn and Arthur Nash, distinguished visitors were received and welcomed with grand honours from New York, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, State of Washington and General Grand Chapter.

On behalf of the latter the Deputy General Grand High Priest, Henry DeWitt Hamilton responded.

From the report of the Grand High Priest we take these extracts:—

“We are now assembled to receive the reports of our officers, exchange ideas and consider subjects which may promote the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry. . . .

“The Chairman of our Ritual Committee, Past Grand High Priest Edgar B. Ellis, was present, and I feel quite sure that he enjoyed the meeting and jotted down several items for future thought.

“At our Convocation, held May 13th, 1924, fraternal recognition was extended to the Grand Chapters of New South Wales, Queensland, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

“Agreeable with such action an exchange of Grand Representatives has been made and the Chain of Royal Arch Masonry has been extended and the territory of fraternal relations thereby enlarged.”

The Counsel for Grand Chapter is still acting in connection with the disputed application for Patent for “Royal Arch Shoes.” The Patent has not been allowed.

The following is a sensible and practical suggestion, prevision as well as experience is required:—

“The question of dispensations would be simplified if High Priests and Secretaries would plan their work in advance and carefully review their by-laws should unusual conditions arise.”

Among the decisions we find the following:—

“An application for affiliation must be accompanied by a demit. If the application is rejected, the demit is returned to the Companion and he then is in the position of a non-affiliated Mason.”

Among the general remarks these are suggestive:—

“More attention is given to the essentials while the non-essentials are slowly undergoing a change.

“It is very hard for Past Officers to surrender their pet hobbies.”

The Grand High Priest visited every Chapter in the Jurisdiction except one.

Among his many visitations he especially emphasizes those to New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts.

Of M. Ex. Comp. Chipman he says:—

“He was the right man in the right place and during his term of office had taken such a strong hold on the hearts of his Companions that when the time came for him to surrender his authority, the Companions were not backward in expressing their appreciation of the great work he had accomplished.”

In his conclusion we find a remark which will strike a responsive cord in our own Past Grand Z.’s:—

“In reviewing this report some Companions may gain the impression that the office of Grand High Priest is one filled with a round of pleasure, but I assure them that it is not, as there are many occasions which call for deliberation, careful thought and consultation with those well informed brethren who are always ready to give of their time and talent.”

In his report the Grand King says:—

“The work of the P.S. was extremely poor; insomuch so that it would imply to the candidates that they were attending a musical comedy rather than receiving a dignified Masonic degree.”

He speaks most eulogistically of our old friend M. Ex. Comp. Ellis.

The Committee on Rituals say in their admirable report:—

“We feel confident, that in a short time, everything of a ludicrous nature will be ancient history, and that Royal Arch Masonry in Connecticut will assume the high moral and intellectual plane to which it justly belongs.”

R. Ex. Comp. Harvey J. Milne, of Kingston, represents Connecticut in Canada.

The Order of High Priesthood met and many Excellent Companions after election and being properly vouched:—

“Were regularly received, anointed, consecrated and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood in Royal Arch Masonry in due and ancient form.”

The review of other Grand Chapters is by the veteran George A. Kies, and we always expect some

nuggets of thought from him with a personal touch here and there.

Under Alabama we find:—

“An active, intelligent, well paid lobby is maintained by those interested in parochial schools and all the forces of the alien religious groups in America is arrayed solidly against the bill. Acting as individuals, each Mason should be as solidly for it, and send word in such a way as to get the answer. Resolutions get nowhere when not followed up by active effort of the individuals behind the resolution. Let's get busy and ask our Congressman about the delay.”

His conclusion ought to please Joe Eggleston:—

“Time travels rapidly toward eternity. The present is a fast age, and the old is giving way to the new. Ought we not make pause before laying aside the wisdom of the fathers?”

Under South Dakota, he notes:—

“But for experienced Grand Secretaries, Grand High Priests would often go upon the rocks.”

Colorado gives him the following opportunity:—

“He approves of the attitude of Grand High Priest DeKlyn in disapproving Chapters visiting different Lodge rooms to confer degrees and adds: ‘We wish that more Grand High Priests were of the same opinion.’ He also approves of our Mark tax for our Masonic Home.”

Under District of Columbia he revives some historical references to the position of Masons in the late war and throws upon it some new light through M. Ex. Comp. Jermaine. Space only permits the following interesting extracts:—

“I knew all about his strenuous but unsuccessful efforts to secure a working agreement between all the American Grand Jurisdictions for war purposes.

“I believe I ought to be quite frank and say that his proposals would have been accepted by every Grand Master present had they originated with that Grand Master and not with somebody else.

“Those conferences had a humiliating and disillusioning effect upon all who knew about them. Out of them has developed the plan of the Masonic Service Association, born in Iowa, that promises to perfect an organization that will do something to unite our Fraternity in case there should be another great war. Most of the American Grand Lodges now adhere to it. In 1917, however, they didn't adhere to anything but their determination, made by each acting inde-

pently, not to permit one Grand Jurisdiction to get any credit for unifying the Fraternity for war work, at the expense of the others.

"If the history of our war failure as a Fraternity ever is written, it will contain nothing of which any of us can be proud. I am speaking, of course, only of our failure to organize on a national scale. Individual members of the Fraternity, by the hundreds of thousands, and countless separate Masonic bodies, doubtless to the limit of 1,800,000 members we than had, were doing their very utmost; but there was no way whereby they could get together as a great Masonic force."

Of Iowa and rotation of line Officers he says:—

"On rotation in office, he believes in it at least so far as concerns 'advance from the scribe.' We believe that the question of fitness for the office should be the prime consideration. Otherwise, on the principle of *caeteris paribus*, advancement is right. During our Capitular lifetime, we have seen three council officers of Grand Chapters dropped at different times.

Kansas is a fertile field for him as witness the following:—

"We are in complete accord with this, from his foreword:

"It will be observed from the report and quotations taken from some of the Proceedings that there is a tendency to lend the endorsement of the Royal Craft to certain organizations, some of which have presumed to require as a prerequisite to membership, that of affiliation in either a Symbolic Lodge or some of the co-ordinate bodies."

He fires this little shot:—

"We asked him how the folks made a living back in Vermont on the rock-ribbed hills, and he answered that they managed to save a little now and then and send it out West to us people and take mortgages on our farms."

He is correct, under Minnesota:—

"He is rather inclined to find fault with the conservative position taken by our Grand Chapter in declining to sponsor the so-called De Molay. As a matter of fact, Companion Schurman, we were a little afraid of endorsing that organization because we would then have no alibi for sidestepping the proposition of endorsing the other twenty-three similar organizations now running around the country with the tag of Freemasonry attached to them."

Maine gives him the following:—

"Under Kentucky, a correct thought:

“I think we are all agreed if more High Priests were more anxious for the ultimate good of Capitular Masonry than to accede to the importunities of those who are looking after the convenience of candidates, the Royal Arch would be better for it.”

Under Missouri he speaks of the following sensible recommendation, namely, that the Grand Secretary be given power to edit and condense the matter handed in for the Proceedings.

The grim humour of our confrère appears under North Dakota when he says:—

“He is another who is puzzled by the fact that our High Priests are listed as *Most Excellent*, though not Past Grand High Priests. Simply because we have enough old hunkers to balk any effort to abandon a misleading title, simply because the latter stands in our old monitor, which to our mind is piffle.”

Like the rest of us, he loves banquets, and says under Pennsylvania, of praise given by one who was most worthy, the late Comp. W. B. Meredith:—

“He tosses this bouquet to your reporter, but he gives a wrong middle initial:

“It is now the first of August, and yet the Proceedings have been on our desk for some time. This is what we term efficiency.”

He approves the good law decisions of West Virginia, among them the following:—

“Held, that the High Priest could not cast the deciding vote in case of a tied vote in the election of officers, but only on questions of motion has he that right.”

And under the same State he quotes:—

“There is no doubt but that the frequent visits of Grand Officers create interest, and many Chapters die for want of outside aid.”

Of the General Grand Chapter and the feast of fat things in Portland, he says:—

“Your reporter can personally testify—that the fine and bounteous dinner was digestible and satisfactory. But one inland Grand Secretary, who however looks robust, confessed to us the next day his opinion that such food might be all right, ‘but for us Westerners—ah me!’”

Canada is included this time among the foreign Jurisdictions which bring up the rear guard of the report. He says that M. Ex. Comp. Spencer eulogized the De Molay and reported on his work as follows:—

“He had consecrated eight new Chapters. He reports the Craft as making progress, but is anxious for ‘greater progress along constructive lines.’”

We thank him for his sympathy and friendly greeting in the following:—

“Companion Ponton was elected Historian. We commiserate him on his probable difficulties and troubles.

“W. N. Ponton, P.G.Z., submits the Correspondence Report, 170 pages. As might be expected from his friendly and fraternal intercourse during his several welcome visits, he treats Connecticut, 1923, with the utmost cordiality, giving us nearly three pages of fraternal review.”

Of Grand Representatives he says (but we cannot agree):—

“Well, the subject of Grand Representatives is a most fruitful one and there are many sides to it. The question often occurs to us: ‘Why is a Grand Representative anyway, especially under present-day conditions?’”

With regard to our Profession may I suggest that the most wide horizoned administrators are taken from the Law:—

“Under Victoria, for a lawyer he shows a praiseworthy disregard for trifles.

“The mode of salutation of the V.S.L. was discussed at length both on sanitary and Ritualistic grounds, and the discussion leaves one rather confused as to what is the general consensus of opinion in regard to this among the Companions of Victoria. With us there are so many more important things that we do not lose much time over these matters of form and we are not worried about health and contagion.”

The other sister British Jurisdictions are all briefly and favourably reviewed.

Scotland is, we regret to say, termed “stiff-necked as ever.” It is the firm fibre of Scottish men in maintaining their rights and the liberties of the world that has given much of the determined character to the British Race.

The table of statistics would be more interesting, complete as it is from the United States point of view, if Canada and other Jurisdictions were included. There should be no latitude or longitude among Freemasons of the Royal Craft.

The next Annual Convocation will be held in Hartford, 11th May, 1926.

M.E. William Bowers, New Haven, Grand High Priest.

M.E. George A. Kies, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

John E. Krauss, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 2,065.

Net gain, 16.

An epitome of the Masonic career of the retiring Grand High Priest Krauss and a fine portrait precedes the transactions.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the city of Wilmington, 21st January, 1925.

No less than 12 Past Grand High Priests were at the post of duty and of honour.

The Grand High Priest brought to the attention of the Companions the long and faithful service of M. Ex. Comp. Moulton, of Chicago, who has represented Delaware for the past 35 years, and stated that he "has been one of those real Representatives who has always kept us advised of matters of interest." A telegram of felicitation was sent to him.

Grand Chapter was honoured with the presence of distinguished guests from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York.

From the address of Grand High Priest Krauss we gather some interesting comments:—

"We have not added materially to the membership of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction, but I feel strongly we have made many strides forward in inculcating the lessons of the degrees belonging to this Order. I would urge, however, that the High Priests of the Subordinate Chapters renew their efforts to persuade Master Masons to complete the lesson by taking the Capitular degrees.

His official visits were many and the courtesies received were boundless.

Grand Representatives have been the subject of much consideration in Delaware and the Grand High Priest thus deals with the subject:—

“A number of the Jurisdictions have advised us that their representatives are appointed for life or until removed for cause, and I feel that Delaware’s representatives should be appointed “Ad Vitam” and with this end in view it is my recommendation that the resolution quoted above, be revoked and in lieu thereof we adopt the following resolution:—

“The appointment of Grand Representatives shall be permanent and the Commissions of said Representatives shall only be withdrawn for cause.”

Canada was represented by Comp. George S. Scott.

As to the Ritual he says:—

“This has led me to wonder if we did not reject the new Ritual in this Jurisdiction without fair trial. I, for one, have conceived an entirely new picture and, in my opinion we will raise more real Royal Arch Masons under it than with that now in use.”

Queensland was duly recognized.

Comp. Krauss thus concludes:—

“At all times he has been my faithful guide and in his quiet, unassuming way, he has reminded me of my duties and put me on the right track. And to you, my Companions, I again desire to express my heartfelt appreciation of the honour you have conferred upon me and I trust that you will view my short-comings with charity and know that I have been endeavouring to build the Temple of Capitular Masonry in this State in symmetry, order and beauty.

The Committee on Memorials indulge in no platitudes or preaching. They simply record the passing of the Companions who have gone and close their report feelingly as follows:—

“Thus Companions the leaves are falling one by one.”

“Earth to earth, and dust to dust,

Calmly now the words we say,

Left behind, we wait in trust

For the resurrection day.

Father, in Thy gracious keeping

Leave we now thy servant sleeping.”

R. Ex. Comp. Alfred C. Larter represents Delaware near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The standing Resolutions of Delaware are as usual printed in the Proceedings covering four closely printed pages. The following five will illustrate the style and matter:—

“Membership in a Chapter be co-existent with membership in a Blue Lodge, i.e., that a Companion who is dimitted from a Blue Lodge for more than one year, forfeits his membership in his Chapter.

“The High Priest of the several Subordinate Chapters are instructed to cause all candidates to perfect themselves in the essentials of the preceding degrees before being advanced to the degree of Royal Arch Mason.

“A Companion elected to office in his Chapter cannot hold an appointed one except temporarily.

“In all future publications of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, a page, opposite to that of the portrait of the M.E. Grand High Priest, shall contain a biographical sketch and record of his Masonic career, and his address.

“High Priests are required to open and close their Chapters in full form; the M.M., M.E.M. degrees may be opened and closed in short form if it should be necessary.”

The report on Correspondence is a brief but full one and is from the mind and hand of Comp. Thomas J. Day.

Under California we read of this exemplary fidelity:—

“Held on the ranch of Companion Erskine near Dunlap, Fresno County, over 250 Companions attended, the average distance travelled by each Companion being about 58 miles.”

Canada is kindly treated, quotations being given from the address of Grand Z. Spencer and the following with regard to the Condition of Capitular Masonry and Fraternal Correspondence. We appreciate the spirit of mutual good will:—

“Companion Ponton presents an interesting report on the ‘Conditions of Capitular Masonry.’ In conclusion he says: ‘All along the line we note the loyal note struck by the Companions of this Royal and law-abiding Craft. No anarchy—no rebellion against constituted authority—no demagogues dallied with or fanatics tolerated. We express ourselves with no uncertain sound. We are positive, not negative, of two evils we choose neither.’

"He also furnishes the report on Fraternal Correspondence, which he styles as a 'Little Journey to the Homes' of those who strive to excel as excellent Companions in all that contributes to make life worth living through generous friendship, practical philanthropy and real ideals."

Connecticut's reviewer is the subject of good natured banter:—

"The Proceedings for Delaware for 1923 receive a brief review, and for 1924 a review somewhat shorter, with an apology that the printer was yelling for copy. It is our opinion that his pipe was empty and he was in a hurry to fill it."

Under England we read:—

"At this Convocation the Committee of General Purposes recommended that the institution of 'London Rank in the Royal Arch' be approved. This new Rule was adopted."

The General Grand Chapter receives attention and the momentous cablegram brief and to the centre is thus printed:—

"Treaty unanimously confirmed without opposition."

Illinois furnishes the following commendable example:—

"The special committee to whom this matter was referred unanimously recommended that a donation of \$50,000.00 be made to the Grand Lodge of Illinois for this purpose with the understanding that the addition shall consist approximately of forty rooms. The recommendations were adopted by a unanimous vote."

From Oklahoma we garner this verse:—

"Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honour, men who will not lie."

Tennessee gives this lively paragraph:—

"He gives Delaware for 1923 nearly a page of fraternal review, and thinks that the habit of the Grand Representative for Tennessee near the Grand Chapter of Delaware of practicing the absent treatment is not the kind of a habit to be proud of. Of this we do now agree.

Our confrère thus quotes from Washington and comments:—

"Among the decisions rendered was one in reference to affiliation. "Our code does not place any resident qualifications on a petitioner for affiliation. It is not even necessary that he be a resident of the State. Any Royal Arch Mason in good standing no matter where he lives is eligible to petition for membership by affiliation."

The Order of High Priesthood met on December 27th, 1924, St. John's Night, and transacted much business.

M.E. West A. Trotter, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.

R.E. John W. Macklem, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Simon Bube, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 6,611.

Net gain, 113.

A Special Convocation was held for the purpose of constituting Woodridge Chapter. Past Grand High Priest Frank F. Major, an old personal friend, and Past Grand High Priest Roe Fulkerson and a large number of members were present.

A Special Convocation was held June 25, 1924, owing to the retirement through illness of the veteran Grand Secretary, Arvine W. Johnston who served the Chapter for 28 years. Of him it is said:—

"I feel that the Grand Chapter should take similar action, and bestow upon our beloved Companion a fitting tribute for the faithful and meritorious service he has rendered this Grand Chapter for twenty-eight years, and I therefore recommend that Companion Arvine W. Johnston be retired as Grand Secretary Emeritus with compensation equal to his present salary for the remainder of his life."

This recommendation was unanimously adopted and Comp. J. Claude Keiper was appointed Grand Secretary.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Convocation was held February 11, 1925, at the Masonic Temple, Washington.

Among the Past Grand Priests who were present, were the well known names of Matthew Trimble, Harry Standiford, Lem. Towers and Frank F. Major.

Canada's Grand Representative, as is usual with R. Ex. Comp. Lucien G. Yung, was present doing duty.

Greetings were extended to distinguished guests, among them was M.W. Bro. Roe Fulkerson who is now Grand Master.

From the address of the Grand High Priest these extracts may be found of interest and value:—

"It is one of the fundamental principles of democratic government that responsibility and accountability are inseparably connected with positions of trust and honor. Living as we do under the benign influence of the chief exponent of that form of government, we intuitively accept its principles and conform to its practices in all our various activities, whether they be political, professional or fraternal.

"The serious thought that I know has been given by some of the Chapters to means by which interest might be stimulated and increased attendance secured, and the efforts that have been put forth along educational lines, all warrant us in proclaiming that the year has been a success and I look to the future of Royal Arch Masonry with confidence and optimism.

"Then will candidates for our degrees seek admission to the Royal Arch Chapter for the sake of the degrees and the opportunities for genuine work which they offer and not merely as a means towards a desired end. This is a 'consummation devoutly to be wished.'"

OUR DEAD.

"We mourn no blighted hope nor broken plan

With him whose life stood rounded and approved
In the full growth and stature of a man."

With regard to the late Dr. Kuhn the Grand High Priest says:—

"He delighted in the friendship of the younger generation; he was never so happy as when engaged in debate in the Masonic Forum. His work as a Masonic Reviewer was of a high order and he commanded the respect of all jurisdictions.

"We cannot understand the sorrows of life now, because we see through a glass darkly, but sometime, yes, sometime, we shall know."

One of his decisions is as follows:—

“Believing that this practice is proper, I decide that it is not within the province of a Chapter to issue a duplicate demit and direct that in lieu thereof a certificate of the general tenor of that set forth be issued.”

The Royal Arch Hall was opened Sunday, January 4, 1925, with many hundred Companions in attendance. Of this worthy philanthropy it is said:—

“The Royal Arch Masons of the District of Columbia are to be congratulated and commended upon the successful completion of this worthy project. We have not only built a monument and a memorial to Royal Arch Masonry, but we have earned the praise and gratitude of the Board of Directors of the Home and those who are now its guests, as well as those who shall dwell there in the years to come. This contribution by our Chapters is proof positive that the Royal Arch is not merely a social institution, but an organization that lives in deeds and lives for others.”

The High Priests' Association of the District of Columbia does not confine itself to one meeting a year, but it is in constant activity and is an energetic and efficient organization.

Grand Secretary Keiper received merited praise by the Grand High Priest who says that no Jurisdiction has a more able, faithful and conscientious officer. He closes his address with the following gracious words:—

“It is my earnest hope that this great organization, the Royal Arch, whose end and aim is the exaltation of man and the glory of God, may continue to grow in power, in prestige and, above all, in achievement. May its good work increase and multiply, so that its influence may encompass the world and hasten the day

When man to man the world o'er
Shall brothers be and a' that.”

The Grand Visitor and Lecturer who is Canada's Grand Representative, Lucien G. Yung, says in his able report:—

“The splendid degree of harmony and good fellowship existing in all the Chapters has been most pleasing, and the ritualistic work has been rendered in a very creditable and almost perfect manner. I have been especially gratified to notice the continued improvement in the manner of conferring the Past Master's degree.”

He speaks of the success of the School of Instruction, which is held on the first and third Fridays of *each month* in that compact Jurisdiction.

The opening of the biography of Grand High Priest Bube is a worthy tribute:—

“A sincere purpose, backed up by ability, is a valuable asset and a conscientious adherence to it will, as a rule, produce results that are lasting and beneficial. The world is quick to recognize and applaud sincerity of purpose and to accord a full meed of praise to the individual whose life runs to high standards and whose work classifies him among those who do things.”

R.W. Bro. Clewlo, of Toronto, represents the District of Columbia near Canada.

The capitar world is not merely edited but surveyed and analyzed by M.W. Bro. W. W. Jermane, P.G.H.P. His foreword is educationally and historically out of the ordinary and gives as no one else can give, a recapitulation of the past and present conditions with regard to the three important matters treated of and which are subjects of such vital interest everywhere. We therefore feel that we are justified in reproducing a large part, and commend it to the perusal of our Companions in Canada as a valuable contribution whether we agree with all the conclusions or not. M.W. Bro. Jermane, however, brings an open mind and a generous consideration for the sentiments of others:—

“The movement in favor of having popular education represented in the cabinet began in the latter part of the Wilson Administration. Mr. Harding gave it his support as did Mr. Coolidge. It was the subject of an approving plank in the platform of the Republican party adopted at the national convention which nominated Mr. Coolidge. The Republicans have been in control of all branches of the Government since March 4, 1921, and yet the education bill has not been enacted into law. The forces that prevented action would have been just as potent had the Government been under Democratic control.

“There has been failure not only in the face of the fact that the party in power is officially committed to the program, but in the face of a popular support more widespread than usually comes to any bill Congress is considering. Freemasonry is not an inconspicuous element of that support.

"Why this determined and all powerful opposition? There are two reasons: First, the religious antagonism that has been aroused, and second, the unwillingness of the country to take any further steps in the direction of centralizing authority in the Federal Government, after its experience with the Volstead Act.

"The fact seems to be that drastic prohibition enforcement, regardless of the good that is designed to follow, and that in many ways has followed it, has left a bad taste in the mouths of millions of people—not all of them wet—and turned them in principle against further direct control of their affairs from Washington. The trend had been the other way for a generation. It has taken the Volstead Act to show the country what the Federal Government can do in the way of invading the accustomed rights of the private citizen when it is given authority to do so.

"It is significant that the question of the proposed enlargement of the functions of the Bureau of Education did not come up in any important way until the Ku Klux Klan had begun to make itself felt in politics, about four years ago. As I have said, the bills, so far as their language was concerned, hinted at no attack on any particular form of religion. When the Church that maintains parochial schools began to voice its opposition, disinterested people were able to understand what was going on. Having become alarmed, members of that Church were able to prevent action in Congress.

"The Klan and every other group of citizens of anti-Catholic leanings became ardent supporters of each education bill as it presented itself.

"Senator La Follette had a similar experience in the campaign of 1924. With a bludgeon he beat off the communists and compelled them to nominate a presidential ticket of their own, but he could not drive the Socialists and the near "reds" away. They did more to discredit his candidacy than any other part of his support.

"Abolition support of Lincoln's candidacy made the South believe that the success of the Republican party would be a first step towards an attack upon slavery itself. And so his election was the signal for secession.

"I have stated the situation as I believe it to exist, without the suppression of any fact important to an understanding of it. I have explained why none of the education bills has gone through, and how a turning away of the country from the centralization idea has placed further obstacles in their path. This statement, coming from one who has from the beginning made a careful study of the question at close range, is due the members of the Masonic fraternity throughout the United States, the great majority of whom, I assume, have been able, like myself, to look at the question without prejudice."

His review is decidedly original and under Alabama he says:—

“There are a good many states where work of this kind by any of the Masonic grand bodies would be looked upon by members of the fraternity as being outside the scope of proper Masonic activity. More and more, however, Masons in their organized capacity are interesting themselves in everything having to do with popular education. Tennessee is a State in point.”

Under Arkansas he utters a truism which however cannot be too often emphasized:—

“Leniency in matters of this kind serves no good purpose. It merely encourages delinquency. But if there is a stiff penalty for it, it will disappear.”

He does not approve of California’s topical report and says:—

“Here is another case of Ephraim being wedded to his idols, and it is to be regretted.”

Canada is fully reviewed. Our confrère says:—

“The Grand Chapter of Canada has been reduced to its lowest territorial terms by the organization of the Grand Chapters of Manitoba and Saskatchewan last year. There was a time when it embraced the most of the Dominion of Canada; but as new provinces grew up, with large populations and rapidly increasing wealth and importance, they expressed a desire to set up for themselves, Masonically as well as politically, and the mother Grand Chapter was always ready to help them on their way.”

He speaks of the Grand Scribe E. Henry T. Smith’s report as showing during the past eight years our actual increase in membership has been 5,358.

He mentions with great satisfaction the investments of nearly \$58,000 and \$20,000 balance on hand.

Of our Correspondence Report he is kind enough to say:—

“The correspondence report is written by Comp. Ponton, who is well known to many of the Royal Craft in the United States. While Grand Z., he made a number of trips into the States for the purpose of being present at their Grand Chapter Convocations. I recall that we had a pleasant visit from him in the District of Columbia. He is a ready speaker,

an earnest Craftsman, a good mixer, and his little trips south of the boundary helped the cause of both sides of that line.

"He devotes slightly more than three pages of his review to the Grand Chapter of the District, giving it kindly and discriminating mention."

Under Massachusetts and joining others in expressing their growing disapproval of official line promotions he says:—

"These grand bodies should, all of them, be conducted more with reference to the common good, and less with reference to the desire of members of the grand lines to receive, at the earliest practicable moment, past officers' jewels."

He eulogises as well he may, Oklahoma's wonderful Loan Fund to Students in which \$11,000 have been paid out and more than \$4,000 already repaid:—

"Constructive effort of this kind carries its own comment, and needs none from me nor anybody else. All praise to the Oklahoma Grand Chapter in what it is doing in such a generous way."

He makes special mention of the Masonic Service Bureau of Wisconsin, noting their splendid activities, their visits and their grants, and summarized their results as follows:—

"A pretty good year's work, I call it."

J. Davis Bradfield Grand High Priest.

J. Claude Keiper, Grand Secretary.

ENGLAND.

H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught, First Grand Principal.

Rt. Hon. Lord Ampthill, Pro First Grand Principal.

Sir Frederick Halsey, Bart, P.C., Second Grand Principal.

V. Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg Third Grand Principal.

Sir P. Colville Smith, C.V.O., Grand Scribe E.

A Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held at Freemasons' Hall, London, 5th November, 1924.

The President of the Committee of General Purposes is Ex. Comp. Herbert F. Manisty, K.C., LL.B.

Ex. Comp. Granville Grenfell is Grand Director of Ceremonies and Ex. Comp. Lt.-Col. Sankey, D.S.O., Grand Sword Bearer with Ex. Comp. Alfred J. Carpenter.

Other names well known in the Craft and the public life of England follow.

The Grand Chapter was opened in "Antient and Solemn Form."

From the report of the Committee of General Purposes, which was adopted, we take the following:—

"The Committee has carefully considered the position of the St. George's Lodge, No. 440, Montreal, and is of opinion that in view of the fact that the Chapter formerly attached to this Lodge has long since ceased to exist and returned its Charter, the Committee can recommend to Supreme Grand Chapter, that in the exceptional circumstances and without in any way imperilling the rights and privileges of any of its members, an assurance should be given to the Grand Chapter of Quebec that no new Charter will be granted for a Chapter to work within the Province of Quebec under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England."

Six new Chapters were instituted.

A Chapter in Bengal obtained a Charter of Confirmation, the original having been destroyed by damp, and a Chapter in Yokohama received a Charter of Confirmation, the original having been destroyed in the earthquake.

With reference to the Quebec reconciliation we find the following:—

"I venture to say that if the recommendations of the Committee are accepted by this Convocation, and the resolution which I am about to submit to you is carried, the fraternal relations which heretofore existed between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Supreme Grand Chapter of England will be renewed on a sure, and, I hope, a lasting foundation of fraternal esteem and good-will. I therefore beg to move:—

"That this Supreme Grand Chapter having considered the Report of the Committee of General Purposes in connec-

tion with the resumption of fraternal relations with the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, accepts the suggestion of the Committee contained therein, and resolves that fraternal relations be, and they are hereby, resumed with the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec.'

"The M.E. Pro First Grand Principal having referred to his visit to Canada, out of which arose the present negotiations, which he hoped were thus satisfactorily terminated, then put the Motion, which was carried unanimously."

Quarterly Convocation was held 4th February, 1925, Sir Alfred Robbins present on duty as usual, with Colonel Hamilton-Wedderburn and others, of whom we in Canada have pleasant memories.

With regard to Manitoba and Saskatchewan the following paragraph is of interest:—

"The two petitioning Grand Chapters were formed in 1923, the Chapters under each of their Jurisdictions previously forming part of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, which Body is in fraternal relationship with the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, and which Grand Chapter authorized the formation of the two new Bodies."

One hundred guineas was granted to the preservation of St. Paul's Cathedral Fund.

Thirteen petitions for new Chapters were granted.

A Charter of Confirmation was given to a Chapter in Madras, the original having been destroyed.

Consent of Grand Chapter was given to the removal of eight constituent Chapters.

At the close of the Proceedings the National Anthem was sung, as is most fitting in the loyal and Royal Craft.

Quarterly Communication was held 6th May, 1925, Rt. Hon. Lord Ampthill presiding.

Among those present were noted our Canadian-Scottish friend, Sir John Ferguson, Past Grand Treasurer, and others whose names are familiar in our mouths as household words.

With regard to the election of Grand Treasurer we read:—

"Ex. Comp. Herbert F. Manisty, K.C. (President of the Committee of General Purposes): Most Excellent and Companions, under the Regulations of Supreme Grand Chapter, the Grand Treasurer in the Craft, being an installed First Principal, is to be the Grand Treasurer in the Royal Arch, but if the Grand Treasurer in the Craft be not an installed First Principal, then by Regulation he is to be nominated and elected.

"The proposition was seconded by Ex. Comp. C. J. R. Tijou, P.A.G. Sojr., and, there being no other nominations, the Most Ex. Pro First Grand Principal declared Ex. Comp. D. Wintringham Stable, LL.B., P.Z., London, duly elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year."

Many Grand Officers were appointed and invested, among them the following three:—

"Lt.-Col The Hon. George Monckton-Arundel, D.S.O.

"Herbert F. Manisty, K.C., LL.B.

"D. Wintringham Stable, LL.B."

From the address of M. Ex. Comp. Lord Ampthill we take the following:—

"There is a different way for each one of us in accordance with his peculiar opportunities, and the situation in which he finds himself; but I felt, Companions, that I should be neglecting the duty imposed upon me, so long as I did not just remind you of those two things, first of the Declaration that heads the Book of Constitution, and secondly, that all the appointments made to-day are consequential on your appointment as Officers of Grand Lodge."

Ten Petitions for new Chapters were granted.

Then followed many pages of statements of accounts and the contributions of constituent Chapters made during the year beginning with Chapter No. 2 and ending with No. 4425, Pro Deo et Patria, London.

On the last page we take three specimen and suggestive names:—

4022, Bagdad; 4168, Jeanne d'Arc, London; 4137, Cedars of Lebanon, Twickenham, which contributed £12, 2s. 6d. to the General Fund, which totalled £4538 Sterling.

A Quarterly Convocation was held 5th August, 1925, Rt. Hon. Lord Ampthill presiding.

Sir Colville Smith, C.V.O., Grand Scribe E.; W. J. Songhurst of Quatuor Coronati Lodge present

and no less than three Admirals among the Officers, with the Principals of many subordinate Chapters.

The receipts are announced as £2191 Sterling.

Among the deaths recorded is that of Viscount Leverhulme and of many others.

With ten other petitions the following was received:—

“From Companion William John Andrew, as Z; George Edward Palmer, as H.; Thomas Froude, as J., and others, for a Chapter to be attached to the La Belle Sauvage Lodge, No. 3095, to be called the La Belle Sauvage Chapter, and to meet at the Café Monico, London.”

Also one from Companions asking to form the Southern Cross Chapter to meet in the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa. Verily we girdle the world.

The purchase of £500 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan was approved.

Grand Chapter was closed in “Antient and Solemn Form.”

At the close of the proceedings the first verse of the National Anthem was sung.

Sir P. Colville Smith, C.V.O., Grand Scribe E.

FLORIDA.

Erle L. Wirt, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 7,948.

Net gain, 543.

The portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Wirt and the design of the Granite Monument adopted by Grand Chapter and erected in the Cemeteries to the memory of each Grand High Priest as he passes to the Grand Overseer above—a unique and worthy tribute of regard—precede and adorn the Proceedings.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation was held in Jacksonville, May 19, 1925. Thirteen Past Grand High Priests joined as Elder Brethren with their younger Companions in laying the foundation and building the superstructure for the future.

Canada was faithfully represented by Comp. Chester DeRocher.

The Grand High Priest said in his address:—

“I have to the best of my ability discharged that obligation which I assumed, giving to my office that sincerity of purpose and attention to detail which I have always regarded as the duty of everyone accepting installation as an officer of the Chapter.

“Conforming to the established custom of erecting monuments at the graves of our Past Grand High Priests, I recommended the erection of a monument to Past Grand High Priest Silas B. Wright, under the direction of the incoming Grand High Priest; and that appropriation be made to cover the cost of such monument.

“We hold in our hearts the memories of our Companions who have passed through the Veils and have been admitted to the Supreme Council above.”

Among his decisions are the following:—

“I ruled that the provision of residence does not apply to marines and sailors without a fixed residence, but that a candidate's legal residence is his Masonic residence and the place where he is qualified to vote is *prima facie* his legal residence. If he has no place where he is qualified to vote, his declaration as to the place he regards as home may be accepted as evidence of his intention.

“As to courtesy degrees asked by the Chapter in which the candidate was elected to receive the degrees, the request should be made through their Grand Secretary transmitted through our Grand Secretary and neither I nor Putnam Chapter could properly ask permission to confer the degrees.

“Physical perfection is not required in a candidate for degrees in a Chapter. The question of physical qualification is to be determined by each Chapter.”

With regard to Scotland and Texas, independent Florida speaks out:—

“Florida has consistently maintained its position that it was law abiding and was acting wholly within its rights when it declined to sever fraternal relations with the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland and the Grand Chapter of Texas, and I am pleased to be able to report to you that the report of the Jurisprudence Committee which was adopted by the General Grand Chapter by an unanimous vote fully sustained and justified the position taken by this Grand Body.”

The Grand Secretary's Report is full and clear.

The Committee on Education recommend that the good work be continued:—

“We would therefore recommend that the appropriation of four hundred dollars annually be continued, and the committee authorized to grant loans to worthy students in accordance with the original resolution.”

Grand Chapter arrived at the following conclusion with regard to the proper clothing in the R.A. degrees:—

“The question as to what aprons were proper to be furnished the workmen in the Royal Arch degree was submitted. After a full discussion, the motion was made and carried that they should be furnished with Master Masons’ aprons to be worn as Master Masons.”

\$300 was set aside for the Foreign Correspondence Committee who reported recommending the recognition of the Supreme R. A. Chapter of Western Australia, and also recommending with regard to Queensland, the following:—

“In view of these existing conditions, your committee is of the opinion that recognition should not be granted either of these Grand Chapters until such time as there shall be a more harmonious condition of Capitular Masonry in Queensland.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence decided (as confirmed by Grand Chapter):—

“In the matter of whether or not the High Priest should be covered, your committee recommend that the High Priest should wear a hat while presiding—this has been the usual custom in the Jurisdiction for many years.”

From the report of the Committee on Memorials we excerpt this striking opening sentence:—

“The Annual Convocation of this august body provides an occasion for happy re-union of those whose singleness of purpose and common aspirations seem to bind them together in the spirit of fraternal kinship whose sympathies are broad enough to encompass all humanity, and we come to receive from those of our best-informed Companions that inspiration and enthusiasm which we have learned to expect and which gives us the necessary encouragement to continue with the work that falls to our several lots; but, alas, we look in vain for some familiar faces and we realize that a beacon light here and there has been forever extinguished.”

Comp. James H. Cowan, of Galt, represents Florida near Canada.

A digest of Jurisprudence is published and all regulations adopted since are found in the Proceedings in an up-to-date manner.

The Fraternal Correspondence is of course again in the hands of M. Ex. Comp. Ely P. Hubbell who the year before had just completed a successful career as Grand High Priest.

From the Foreword of this veteran and original engineer of surveys we take the following:—

“For the ninth time your committee is pleased to report that the specimens of work presented at this station pass inspection and entitle the workmen to the full wages of faithful Craftsmen.

“Whatever disturbances that may have arisen in the past among the workmen have been amicably settled. Fewer questions are asked and decisions requested, all of which indicate that the Royal Craft as a whole are putting more thought and understanding into the great work in which they are engaged.”

Under Alabama he says:—

“He made it quite clear that when one was appointed to fill a station, be it what it may, it was ‘the duty of each of them to make the work a business.’

“Come and enlarge your acquaintance with a bunch of ‘good fellows.’”

He comments at length on Alberta, and from his gleanings we glean the following:—

“He quite properly, it seems to us, recommended that Chapters using the moon schedule should be changed ‘as they are very confusing.’

“Grand Chapter adopted as its official emblem the inter-laced triangle, or Solomon’s Seal. The General Grand Chapter and nearly all other American Grand Chapters use the Tau Cross within the triangle within the circle. Grand Chapter also adopted the emblem of the Tribe of Judah instead of the Shepherd’s Crook, which the Chapters have heretofore been using.”

We are simply in love with the review of Canada in which he says of the Grand Z.’s address:—

“Uplifting and helpful must have been the masterly address of Grand Z. Spencer, in which he emphasised ‘that

Royal Arch Masonry had a higher and nobler mission than the mere conferring of degrees,' at the same time urging the Companions to be ever on the alert."

He gives us mingled praise and admonition in the following:—

"Sometimes words weaken rather than strengthen. This is true in attempting a reference to the report of the committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry, by the Chairman, William N. Ponton, in which wisdom, inspiration and good sense are mixed in just the right proportion.

The transition from Grand Z. to that of Fraternal Correspondence by the gifted Companion Ponton is smooth and almost uninterrupted, reminding one of passing the summit on one of the great transcontinental lines; a close observer might notice that in the ascent the motive power is pulling, but after reaching the summit the brakes begin to apply. So Companion Ponton, in his new field of activity, puts the brakes on his use of word valuation and lets the other fellows do the most of the talking. He is given a cordial welcome to the Round Table.

"In the maddening rush of the present day, perfection, or near perfection, appears to be expected; comment being reserved for disapproval. Assuming this to be so, the implied approval is gratifying. Thank you."

The District of Columbia's correspondence of course attracts universal attention by the excellence of its journalism, of which Comp. Hubbell speaks thus:—

"Evidence of a trained newspaper writer appears on every page of the really worth while work of P.G.P. W. W. Jermane, who again reports the doings of the various Chapters."

Under England we find the following comment and enlightening quotation:—

"Masonic charity practically applied appears to be the distinguishing features of these organizations, which function under the headings of Fund of Benevolence and Annuity Branch."

As to "London Rank":—

"It is the exact equivalent of Provincial Rank in a Province (*i.e.*, a country Provincial or Grand Lodge) or District Grand Rank in a district overseas. It is a peculiar custom with us that the brethren within a circle of ten miles from Freemason's Hall, London, are directly under the rule of the

Grand Master himself; there is no Provincial Grand Lodge for the London district, and consequently there is no rank or office in any way corresponding to the Provinces. So to create an equal dignity London Rank was established. Now (as the Royal Arch is with us a part of the Craft) it is suggested to have a similar honor and dignity for Royal Arch Masons in the London District."

North Carolina receives attentive comment:—

"He opines that a Grand Chapter on wheels is ideal and evidently wonders why Florida does not oftener 'go a-visiting.' The geographical formation of this state, together with existing railway conditions, make it impractical, however desirable it may be theoretically."

Under Pennsylvania, referring to the late M. Ex. Comp. Meredith, he says of the last review:—

"M. Ex. Companion Wm. B. Meredith, who passed away during the year, as the signature reads, "For W. B. M.," preceded by this statement: 'This report is written by a 'prentice hand instead of the Master Builder.'"

His penetrating eye finds this in Quebec:—

"The state of the Royal Craft is encouraging and satisfactory, but this from the Stadacona District, comprising two Chapters, which includes the City of Quebec, should be read between the lines:—

"This District operates under definite difficulties. It is admitted that the inertia and the silent militant race and creed antagonism which is incident to older Quebec are more powerful to hinder rapid progress here, than in the metropolis and townships. Men, therefore of loyal and outstanding Masonic personality are essentially more rare and where they have emerged are deserving of more sterling admiration and acclaim.'"

He appreciates the good will and good work of Kansas:—

"Companion Wilson will please accept our sincere thanks for the complementary references to our work, for 'praise from Sir Richard is praise indeed.'"

Who can place this quotation?

Tennessee's correspondent Smart has drawn the fire, though not the ire of Comp. Hubbell as well as ourselves, and he says:—

"Not long ago the Knights of the Quill were wondering what the inimitable Roe Fulkerson would say next. He is

doing acceptable work elsewhere. His place is now being filled by Companion Smart. Not alike, but equally surprising."

From our confrère's conclusion we take the following valedictory sentences:—

"Once again we have made the rounds of the Capitular quarries, stopping at all stations where the 'Welcome' sign invited."

"Neither have we words to express the pleasure and gratification for the messages of approval, without exception, so graciously and freely given.

"Companions of the Guild, no longer Knights of the Round Table, each and every one, I thank you."

The next Convocation will be held in Jacksonville, May 18, 1926.

M. Ex. T. T. Todd, Pensacola, Grand High Priest.

M. Ex. Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.

Early H. Johnson, M.E. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 19,158.

Net gain, 75.

The first feature of the Proceedings is a speaking likeness of M. Ex. Comp. Johnson.

The One Hundred and Third Annual Convocation assembled at Macon, April 29, 1925.

The Grand Chaplain offered an earnest prayer from which we take the following:—

"We praise Thee for all life, and for being permitted as a band of Companions to be together again in this Convocation. Look after the welfare of the widows, the orphans, the poor and needy, and, we pray Thee, our Heavenly Father, that we may be cemented together by the holy bond of brotherly love and of truth, and above all, faith in Thee, and faith in men."

On the occasion of the presentation of distinguished visitors Comp. Jeffries said in introducing the Grand Master:—

"We sprang from the loins of Symbolic Masonry, and it is our delight to do honour to them who represent this great Symbolic Craft, and therefore, this morning, I am gratified

to present to you, and to this Grand Chapter the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, Dr. Hamrick, whose loyalty and love for all that is good and true, whose fidelity to the principles of this Craft are so well known."

And in introducing the Grand Commander he said:—

"And now, Most Excellent Sir, I desire to present one who stands at the head of one of the noblest institutions recognized by Freemasonry in America—that valiant and magnanimous Order of Knighthood, the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Georgia."

He called the roll of Grand Officers. The Grand Scribe who had met a tragic death failing to answer, Comp. Ballard spoke as follows:—

"Oh death! where is thy sting; oh grave, where is thy victory." We will see him no more, his smiles will greet us no more, for he has answered that summons from above and until that great morn when through the strength of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, that soul called for by the angel will be re-united to that bruised body and we will not see Alvin E. Sansburn until then."

Thirteen Past Grand High Priests were present in person.

Canada was not among the Grand Representatives who answered roll call.

In his introductory remarks Grand High Priest Johnson said:—

"A prominent speaker once said: 'History repeats itself; historians repeat each other.'

"The future alone can fully reveal how well or how poorly we have wrought.

"Rousseau says: 'He is great who feeds other minds; who inspires others to think for themselves; to whom writers, poets, painters, philosophers, preachers and scientists go, each to fill his own little tin cup, dipper, tub, barrel or cask. Truly William Frederick Kuhn was a great man."

As to the condition of the Order he is frank and outspoken and rallies to action thus:—

"Then this question arises: Have we maintained the position which was held one year ago? Frankly, I do not think that we have.

"To my mind this indicates a growing lack of interest and should be cause for concern."

Among his decisions are the two following:—

“I find nothing which will permit the Grand High Priest to pass upon the physical defects or the moral qualifications of a particular candidate.

“In the event that he should hold his demit exceeding twelve months his membership in the Chapter would automatically cease and he would be liable for no further dues until he was re-instated in the manner prescribed by law.”

As to attendance at Conventions he is equally frank:—

“The attendance on some of the conventions was fairly good and at others it was discouraging. It appears that they are maintained by the faithful few who are always to be relied upon to do any work which may come to hand and those who really should be reached are conspicuous by their absence.”

He recommends the appropriation of \$1,500 for the expenses of representatives at the next Triennial Convocation as follows:—

“The General Grand Chapter is our supreme governing body and if the Grand Chapter of Georgia is to maintain its prestige in that body it is necessary to have representatives at the Triennial Convocations.”

Grand Chapter will join up with the Grand Lodge in building permanent quarters in Macon.

The Masonic Home Messenger—a credit to Georgia, is published and 200 copies are subscribed for by Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Grand High Priest's address says:—

“He has dignified the office, and has been wise in his judgments and has endeared himself to every Companion of this Grand Jurisdiction. He is not only active in Capitular Masonry, but he is on the side of every good cause, a devout Presbyterian.”

From the Grand Lecturer's Report we take the following:—

“For thirteen years, as your Grand Lecturer, I have laboured determinedly to reach a certain goal—every Royal Arch Chapter a live, working body. My ideal has not as yet been realized. Some one has truthfully said that “Hope is a much better calculator than mathematician.” Yet I cannot but believe that a Hope, based on Faith, is a cable upon which we

can confidently rely when disappointments come, and an indomitable will and inflexible purpose, looking for future good through present evil, will at last command success. Carelessness and thoughtlessness upon the part of many members takes a heavy toll. Oftentimes a discouraged High Priest cools the ardour and enthusiasm of all other officers and the members lose interest and drop out. Or it may be the Secretary is too busy to give the collection of dues any attention."

As to the Home he reports unanimously favourable opinion:—

"The question, 'Shall We Build an Old Folks' Home?' was discussed at each Convention and a vote was taken. Every Convention went on record as favouring the proposition."

The Aged Masons' Home Fund of the Chapter totals \$21,000. An Educational Fund is also maintained.

The Foreign Correspondence Reviewer, Comp. Pleasant T. McCutchen, said with a broad horizon:—

"The report could be much better, and then it is possible that it might have been worse. At any rate it is short, and I trust that all Companions will read it.

"In these reviews I have tried to bring out the mighty meanings and powerful purposes of Royal Arch Masonry as a world force, and in accordance with my conception of the Georgia viewpoint and the standards of Revealed Truth. Not a word of comment has a dictatorial intent in it, but is advanced to enlist interest and direct our thoughts into the channels of real companionship which seems to prevail, and should prevail, throughout the world, whether we live in Saskatchewan, the Islands of the Sea, far off Australia, or in the glorious domain of the United States—always, everywhere, Companions in deed and in truth, searching for the mighty mysteries taught in the Fatherhood of God and the universal Brotherhood of Man."

The Committee on Education thus report:—

"No greater piece of constructive work has ever been undertaken by this Grand Body."

Since the Grand Lecturer took office the membership has doubled in ten years.

The Committee on General Welfare thus buoyantly reported:—

"The great mission of Masonry is to uplift humanity. The great incentive to service is the hope of visible results.

"The secret of success is service. He who has a specific thing to do will do that thing. If a Chapter would enlist the universal interest of its membership, it must propose and impose upon each Companion some specific service for the good of the Chapter and the good of fellowmen. If the Grand Chapter would make a name and fame worthy the glorious lessons taught within our sacred walls it must imbue the entire membership with the idea, yet, the truth, that no knowledge, privilege or opportunity is of value except it bear fruit in action.

"Give the chief overseer the plan and set the Craft to work upon something worth while. That it is large enough and strong to do some real thing for the good of humanity upon its own motion and by its own efforts."

A pleasant incident occurred in the Installation Ceremonies when Comp. Jeffries addressing Comp. Mathews, the new Grand Royal Arch Captain, said:—

"I cannot refrain, my Companions, from saying that in the old days, some half century ago the proud father of this worthy son was my fellow schoolmate at Oxford, down in Newton. We slept under the same roof and ate at the same table and enjoyed an affectionate companionship during the same year, and when George W. Mathews, Jr., was made an officer in this Grand Chapter, my own mind ran back a half century and wondered if the son would prove as worthy as the father, and my observation has demonstrated the truth of the hope that he was, and now with pleasure I install you Grand Royal Arch Captain."

This reviewer has the honour to be the Grand Representative of Georgia near the Grand Chapter of Canada, and Canada is represented in Georgia by Comp. E. P. Coulter, of Columbus.

The Order of Grand High Priests held their regular meeting.

Canada does not find a place among these Jurisdictions reviewed by the Foreign Correspondent, who under Arkansas says:—

"The duty of a Grand High Priest is to provide a way to meet emergencies if they are real emergencies. He also rendered numbers of decisions, one being to the effect that a Brother elected to the degrees and before receiving them had the misfortune to lose his left hand by an accidental gunshot wound, should have the degrees conferred upon him, showing

that Arkansas has a heart and supererogates the spiritual fitness of the member to the physical qualification."

British Columbia gives him this opportunity:—

"Maryland and West Virginia are about as close to the Sunny South as he dares to venture. Georgia is not included. We trust that he will direct his airplane further south and fly amid the real bloom and fragrance of Capitular Masonry in his next report."

Under California we find the following:—

"A bequest of an estate of some \$150,000 to \$200,000 to California Masonic Homes was announced. We are looking for rich Georgia Masons to do likewise before they die.

"The Correspondence Report is by Companion Max A. Plumb. It is different from the usual review, but is 'Plumb' full of interesting topics."

Our reviewer has a grim humour which he thus expresses under Colorado:—

"In the Order of High Priesthood eighteen Companions were divested of \$5 each and were set apart in due and ancient form, and each was given a handsome Bible, which we trust will be kept out of the dust by constant and studious reading."

From Connecticut we gleam this:—

"It is merely a difference between tweedledum and tweedledee and the same law governing the one, properly construed, should govern the other, and when negligent Chapters are brought right up to the licklog, there will be more efficiency among officers about which so many reports complain, and Masonry generally will assume more dignity."

Florida furnishes him with this material for comment:—

"The Grand High Priest presented a forceful address, showing ability, research and a heart as wide as the needs and worth of humanity.

"Again, the breakdown of authority occurs in individuals. D. L. Moody gave his now famous definition of character as: 'What a man is in the dark;' to what principles will he give his firm and unyielding obedience, in the quietness of his own thoughts, in the secret planning of all his actions."

Missouri gives him this sentence:—

"Some Chapters still labour under the delusion that members and visitors should be continually bribed to attend

Chapter Convocations by an ever-present supply of cigars, luncheons and banquets."

Under Nova Scotia we read these warm words:—

"If he'll slip down south in the glorious April time and visit us even just once and enjoy personally our hospitality and fraternize in the good fellowship bubbling over at each session of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, he'll never make such an omission again."

Quebec receives a fine review from which we take the following:—

"He shows his desire to 'set the Craft to labour under good and wholesome instruction' in these opening remarks."

Virginia always receives attention from the Reviewers, and we find this of Georgia's neighbour:—

"The Report on Correspondence—a most interesting and well prepared one—is by Companion J. W. Eggleston, who reviews thirty-eight Grand Proceedings. There was no review of Georgia. We can only presume that it was 'heaved over into the rubbish,' and that means, of course, Georgia will be the Keystone of the Main Arch in the Correspondence next time."

With Wyoming we close with the following message:—

"The Grand High Priest opens his splendid address with his report on necrology, using this fitting and pretty quotation:

" 'I am the Light, I am the Life,' sayeth the Lord."

" 'On some fond breast the parting soul relies,
Some pious drops the closing eye requires,
Even from the tomb the voice of Nature cries,
Even in our ashes live their wonted fires.' "

"The school pupil that fails to study and master his primer can never amount to much as a scholar. It is equally true and applicable to Masonry."

The next Annual Convocation will be held in Macon, 28th April, 1926.

William A. Sims, Atlanta, Grand High Priest.

Edgar A. McHan, Macon, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

H. A. Cleverstine, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 88,997.
Increase, 2,586.

The Seventy-sixth annual Convocation convened in the grand ballroom of the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, 29th October, 1925.

The Grand Chaplain prayed that the designs on our trestle board this day be acceptable in Thy sight.

Thirteen Past Grand High Priests contributed their wisdom of experience to the Proceedings.

Canada was represented by Comp. Fred W. Soady.

General Grand King Davis was received with grand honours.

For the relief of the suffering from the great tornado which swept over southern Illinois, \$7,767 were contributed by the subordinate Chapters.

Fifteen Masonic schools were held in various places and worked well.

The Grand High Priest and his colleagues are justifiably down on improper entertainment and he notified "from the East" all the Chapters giving in detail the cabaret singing, muscle dances, etc., which characterized the entertainment in Chicago of a Chapter to which Master Masons were invited, and adds without any hesitation:—

"Companions, you all know that an entertainment of this character is not in keeping with the principles and purposes of Royal Arch Masonry, but, on the contrary, tends to degrade and disgrace the name of Masonry, and especially the reputation of Royal Arch Masonry.

"However, as the committee reported to me that this entertainment was no worse than has been heretofore put on by some of the other Chicago Chapters, it is not my desire or purpose to take this drastic measure and make the High Priest of this particular Chapter an example to others at this time."

But surely the multiplicity of offences demanded heroic treatment.

We quote two of his decisions as follows:—

"Question: Our Chapter has voted to contribute from its treasury \$250.00 towards securing right of way for the State hard roads system through our immediate vicinity. Is this proper?"

"My decision was that your action was illegal."

"Question: Will you kindly inform me if a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons has a right to assist, financially, in the formation of a Chapter of De Molay?"

"Answer: It is a well established fact that the funds of a Royal Arch Chapter cannot be used for any other but Masonic purposes. The Order of De Molay does not claim to be any part of Masonry."

He visited with the Grand Secretary the Masonic Home and Royal Arch Memorial Hospital on several occasions. The new addition which the Grand Chapter are building will add 60 rooms to the Hospital.

The Inspector's reports of the 25 Districts are models of satisfying conciseness.

\$5,000 was granted to the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital.

The report of the Grand Secretary is scientific in clarity. He says:—

"The 237 Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction have made reports and paid annual dues within the time limit specified by our by-laws, though not without a bit of strenuous persuasion in a few instances. There are still a few Secretaries who appear to feel that there is honor and distinction in being the last to make returns."

The Committee on Grand High Priest's address congratulates the Grand Chapter "on the concise and straight-forward manner" in which he has reported his doings.

On the second day the Grand Master was received with the honours and acknowledged the generosity of Grand Chapter in connection with the Home and Hospital.

A striking oration was given by Comp. James O'May, Grand Chaplain, from which we cannot resist making the following extracts:—

"We honor the memory of the men who have 'wrought well on the trestle board of time,' and we stand ready to present to the critics and vandals of our day the standard of

our craft, 'the stone that the builders rejected has become the headstone of the corner.'

"How better could Masons describe the building of the new Temple than in the legends, lessons and beautiful morals where manly men brought again the implements of the Temple at the cost of sacrifice and death. Whatever else the work of the Royal Arch degree accomplishes, historically it characterizes the hero-days that connect the days with Daniel and Jeremiah, of Babylon and Ninevah, with the days of Solomon and David on the one side and the days of Jerusalem and Christ on the other. To connect our forbears with our descendants, that is our pride.

"I am calling you to preserve inviolate and if necessary to rescue again the implements of the Temple of to-day—the Temple of democracy and truth, wherein have been lightened the altar fires of liberty and progress. These hero men of yesterday bridged over the days from Solomon to Pericles. You and I must bridge over the days of primeval hate to the days of brotherly toleration.

"Lift up your heads oh ye gates,
And be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors,
And the King of Glory shall come in.

"What visions those numbers lure to our eyes. Seventy-six years ago this city of three million people was only a hamlet of so many hundred souls. French and English were in competition for the mother tongue. New Orleans on the south and Montreal on the north were the outlets for the commerce and trade. We are the Zerrubbabels of to-day. We have in our custody the holy vessels of the holy house. We must gather around the sacred fires where glow the cherubim and seraphim of this, our time. We must hold the freedom and preserve the liberty which they have handed down to us. This is our quest and for that we are met in Grand Chapter to-day."

The Obituary report by Comp. Frank F. Collins is dramatic and unique. He quotes:—

"The sun goes down on its gold red seat
In the calm of duty done,
And he leaves the world with a tranquil face
As he smiles farewell to a grateful race
When his daily course is run.
Thus let me go, for my well-earned rest
To the wonderful great unknown."

R. Ex. Comp. Joseph J. Shelley, of Toronto represents Illinois near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The report of the Committee on Fraternal Relations has been prepared, as last year, by M. Ex.

Comp. E. R. Turnbull. His introduction is very interesting and we quote the following from it for the benefit of our Companions:—

“Several Grand Chapters have paid considerable attention to the education of children of Masons while others have contributed generously to the support of Masonic Homes and Hospitals.

“The Educational Bills in Congress have been warmly endorsed by a few Grand Chapters and their members requested to write their Congressmen regarding the passage of such bills. Other Jurisdictions have held that such questions are matters of personal action only and beyond the province of the Grand Bodies.

“As encouragement for those who are prone to be discouraged over the slow improvement in some places, I quote from a book written by the renowned Dr. Oliver about 1850:—

“‘I have seen a window that was broken out sash and all. I was told that it was done by a candidate, who, being vexed, kicked a saw horse through the window.’

“Even the most pessimistic will admit that we have improved some since the time of the above-mentioned statement.

“The perennial debate over the power of the Grand High Priest to set aside the law by dispensation has not slackened. Each state has its own regulations, some giving absolute authority, while others confine the dispensing power to very narrow limits.”

Under Iowa he touches on the uniformity of floor work as follows:—

“As a result of these schools the Board decided to prepare a complete manual of floor movements. This is something that we have had for many years and it has proved of the utmost value in securing uniformity. Nothing will do more to instill confidence in an officer than the knowledge that he can take part in the work of another Chapter without being embarrassed by ignorance of local custom. Illinois Chapters now frequently visit each other and officers, perhaps strangers, work together in harmony and without confusion. This was impossible before our floor movements had been perfected.

“An unexpected feature of this experiment was the sociability that developed from the meeting of so many different officers.”

North Carolina’s reviewer thus speaks of the interesting volume of Illinois’ Proceedings as follows:—

"It is difficult not to write for the pure literary joy of such a condition."

The wonderful philanthropic work of Texas—broad-visioned and practical, is thus recorded:—

"This is an unparalleled record and one which may never be equalled by any other Grand Chapter. The completion of this great undertaking has opened the way for another and a special committee was appointed to consider the advisability of starting a Students' Loan Fund."

Virginia and our friend, Comp. Eggleston, are thus brought to our notice:—

"No person can be a member of a Royal Arch Chapter who is not a member in good standing of a Blue Lodge. Of course not.

"The Fraternal Correspondence is by Companion Joseph W. Eggleston. Companion Eggleston admits to having seen fourscore summers pass by but the Blue Ridge section of the Old Dominion State radiates health and longevity throughout the length and breadth of the land. He tells us that he saw the Alabama troops carry the Crater at Petersburg July 30, 1864, and that was before most of us were born."

He "heartily agrees" with the doctrine that physical perfection applies to initiation only.

Canada 1925 receives about five pages of satisfying review. He quotes from and comments on M. Ex. Comp. Davis' address as follows:—

"I have declined to grant dispensations for processions of Companions wearing regalia.

"Masonry, in my opinion, should dwell in the heads and hearts of its devotees and be exemplified in their lives and actions and not be a subject for public and possibly unprofitable display.

"Among his rulings is one that covers a condition that could not arise in this country:—

"That a *Lewis* who had received the Royal Arch degree in Scotland could not affiliate with one of our Chapters until he had attained the age of twenty-one years.'

"Another was:—

"That a Companion *charged* in his symbolic Lodge with a Masonic offence should be suspended from Royal Arch privileges pending trial.'

"This would not be done in Illinois as we do not take action until after the accused has been tried and convicted. Until that has been done, the Companion is entitled to the same privileges as any other member.

"Two occurrences unique in the annals of Masonry are here reported:—

"To Madoc Chapter belongs the distinction of having exalted probably the oldest candidate in the history of Capitular Masonry, Charles William O'Hara, aged ninety-two years.'

"St. John's Chapter, London, has the unique experience of conferring the Capitular degrees on two candidates whose applications were recommended by their sons.'"

He speaks of R. Ex. Comp. Gardiner's fine report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry with praise and quotes largely therefrom.

Of our visitors he says:—

"The delegates were regaled with a feast of oratory from the visitors. Companion E. A. Evans, Past Grand Z., Quebec, gave some interesting ancient history.

"I consider that Quebec is the cradle of Freemasonry."

And with regard to other features of our work he says:—

"The Committee on Benevolence reported grants made to forty-five persons, thirty-two of them widows, to the amount of \$3,040.

"In addition to this amount the constituent Chapters disbursed the sum of \$6,150, which proves that the Companions of Canada are fully alive to their responsibilities and that 'Benevolence is not in word or tongue, but in deed and in truth. Not merely a feeling, but a principle. Not a dream of rapture for the fancy to indulge in, but a serious business for the hand to execute.'

"The Capitular Correspondence and Review is from the pen of Companion Ponton. This writer has a wonderful command of language. Here is how he describes his perusal of the various Proceedings:—

"The chronicles of our voyage, and the gleanings and gatherings of gifts that we have brought home to share with our Canadian Companions will, we trust, develop a better sense of perspective and proportion and make real and realized the benedictions and beatitudes and amplitude of the tie that binds us to Brethren, not Bondsmen, of our wise and gentle Craft. Her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.'

"His readers get the meat of every Jurisdiction without details or statistics. Illinois received eight pages. All the high lights in Ferrin's report were given and the Grand Chaplain's oration was quoted from at length. Three pages were devoted to the review of Fraternal Relations for which we tender our thanks."

Under England he quotes:—

“There is a strong movement from below to make the Royal Arch degree what it claims to be—an essential part of pure and ancient—of Craft Masonry, and the necessary completion of it, and what I want to beg of you to do is to reflect very carefully on that Declaration which stands at the head of the Book of Constitution, and on the fact that, as officers of the Grand Lodge of England you have been appointed *ex officio* Grand Officers of the Supreme Grand Chapter.”

Under Manitoba he gives one of the chief functions of the Grand Z. as follows:—

“The Grand Z. visited every Chapter and in each case endeavoured to assist the officers to a correct understanding of the ritual that there may be uniformity and dignified degree work.”

Speaking of New South Wales introducing correspondence reports our colleague says:—

“These reports are to be modelled after those published by the United States Grand Chapters, because they are ‘always useful and interesting to students of Royal Arch Masonry, and will keep us in touch with the doings of other Grand Chapters.’

“This is the first Grand Chapter across the ‘big water’ to adopt this plan and the Scribes of this country will welcome the advent of the new correspondents and extend to them an honored place at the round table. By judicious comment and the explanation of the differences in customs and laws, this committee has a great opportunity to perform a real service to Capitular Masonry.”

We cannot understand, nor can anyone else comprehend the attitude of New South Wales and South Australia to the Grand Chapter of Scotland. We call this attitude as reported under New South Wales distinctly unbrotherly:—

“The Committee on General Purposes reported the receipt of a letter from the Grand Chapter of South Australia approving their attitude towards Scotland which ended with the following statement:—

“‘You may rest assured that no Companion exalted in a Chapter in New South Wales, holding its warrant from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, will be allowed to enter any of our Chapters.’

“Thus, it will be seen that the attitude of the Grand Chapter of Scotland is still a thorn in the flesh and one that is going to remain for a long time from all indications.”

Saskatchewan's Grand Z. is thus introduced:—

"The first page of this report shows a cut of a very clear-eyed gentleman wearing all the regalia so dear to the hearts of our Canadian Companions. His name is James McCauley and for the benefit of our numerous members who travel in the northwestern provinces I give the opening words of his biographical sketch in the hope that some of you may meet him:—

"If travelling on the Soo Line between Moose Jaw and Portal you are asked for your fare by a quiet, mild mannered official called 'Jim' with six gold stripes on his arm and a twinkle in his eye; you will save trouble by producing your credentials at once.'"

Scotland is welcomed back again in the following graceful words:—

"For the first time in ten years a review of this Grand Chapter appears in our Proceedings. The settlement of the long-standing dispute is a source of general satisfaction to the Capitular Craft and we welcome the opportunity to tell our readers something about one of the most important Grand Chapters in the world."

Under Victoria he says:—

"Illinois has one Chapter that has a larger membership than this entire Jurisdiction."

Andrew J. Schattgen, Jerseyville, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

James E. Jeffers, Springfield, R. Ex. Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

John H. Wineland, M.E. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 33,019.

Net gain, 579.

A most interesting introduction to the Proceedings is constituted by the portraits of M. Ex. Comp. Wineland, M. Ex. Comp. Mays, the new Grand High Priest, Grand Treasurer Woodward, the stately Masonic Temple at Terre Haute, and the Correspondence Report is prefaced by an excellent portrait of the Grand Secretary, who is also the Grand Correspondent, M. Ex. Comp. Robert Archer Woods.

From the biography of Comp. Mays we find that he has many fine qualifications, among them the following:—

“He works, and looks to see every one else work. Not only a good lawyer and energetic Mason, but with these qualities we find a companionable and lovable man, one who is not deficient in those splendid social attributes that go to make up a delightful associate and friend.”

The Seventy-ninth Annual Convocation was held in Terre Haute, 22nd October, 1924.

Sixteen Past Grand High Priests out of 22 were at the post of duty.

Canada's Grand Representative, Thomas R. Marshall, Indianapolis, did not answer the roll call. We are especially unfortunate in our choice of Grand Representatives so far as attendance at stated Convocations is concerned, though of course they are most estimable Companions. Only about one-third of our Representatives have put in an appearance at roll call at the altar.

M. Ex. Comps. Leach and Goff (of Michigan), and others representing the General Grand Chapter, and also the Grand Council, were received as distinguished guests.

The Grand High Priest in his address said:—

“My appreciation of the obligations of the office, to which you elevated me a year ago, has been growing as the days come and go, and it is well perhaps that this appreciation of the duties involved is a growing one, for if they could be realized completely at the beginning of the term, one might well shrink from assuming them. However, to the best of my ability these duties have been met and discharged. The record is made. It is now yours to condemn that which is poor and to approve that which you feel is deserving.

“In the General Grand Chapter, the Angel of Death chose a shining mark and, at the very climax of his term, apparently having waited until his work was finished, removed our well beloved General Grand High Priest, William F. Kuhn.”

He declared the positions as Representatives of several Grand Chapters vacant on account of failure to attend meetings.

Among his decisions these two will prove of interest:—

“Question: Does the Chapter have to file charges against a Companion who has been suspended or expelled from the Blue Lodge in order to put him in like status in the Chapter? Answer: He is automatically out of the Chapter by the action of the Blue Lodge.”

“Question: A Royal Arch Mason, who received his work in Scotland and who claims that he received all of the degrees except the Past Master degree, wishes to transfer his membership to us. Is he eligible for membership in this degree? Answer: Because of the fact that we are not in fraternal relationship with the Grand Chapter of Scotland, you cannot permit a member of a Scottish Chapter to *visit* your Chapter, but if he wishes to affiliate with you, you can accept his petition, and if elected, admit him to membership in your Chapter, satisfying yourselves, of course, that he is in good standing in his Scottish Chapter, and then give him the Past Master degree.”

He states in his conclusion that he has leaned rather heavily at times on the Grand Secretary (as many Rulers of the Craft in other Jurisdictions have done), also that the Grand Lecturer had never failed in advice when called upon nor in admonition when needed, and thus links up the past and the future in closing:—

“Whatever of knowledge and experience I have gathered during this year, will be at your command, always. Again I thank you for the privilege it has been to serve you.”

He had written to the Officers of the Constituent Chapters a stirring appeal from which we take this sentence:—

“To the officers-elect I suggest that immediate preparation for the complete duties of your office be made so that when you are installed the work may move forward without a break and thus get away to a running start that will put your Chapter in advance of any mark it has yet attained.”

The Grand Secretary thus upbraids delinquent Secretaries and points out the penalties enforced in Indiana for neglect. They will surely realize their responsibilities in the future:—

“In this connection it is incumbent on me to advise that 71 annual reports had to be sent back to as many Secretaries for correction, before same could be ‘filed,’ under our Regulations; and further, that 32 Secretaries failed to file their reports within the time specified, and thereby subjected their

respective Chapters to the penalty of arrest of charter, with loss of representation, mileage and per diem."

From the Grand Lecturer's Report we take the following:—

"In very few instances has the Secretary been able to locate a copy of the General Regulations when requested, clearly indicating the need of greater care in having this important volume at hand for ready reference. I would suggest that an additional copy be furnished each Chapter, and that it be available at every Convocation; if this were done, we would not find Chapters suspending Companions by a mere motion without the formality of trial, and certain other irregularities, due wholly to a lack of knowledge as to correct procedure."

From the Memorial Report the following sentences are striking:—

"We learn a precious truth in the sowing of seed. We cast the grain in the ground, but after a time a new grain appears and the same life that was in the old is in the new. In like manner, the forces that moved these Companions still live. They are not dead—only gone on before. All of the good deeds and acts of our dearly lamented Companions can not be set forth in a few pages, but their good deeds will live on, and the good they have done is not lost to us nor to the world."

"Farewell! The maze has been threaded.
This is the ending of strife;
Say not that death should be dreaded—
'Tis but the beginning of life."

After the Annual Convocation Dinner the Grand Chaplain, Comp. Rev. Campbell K. McKay, delivered a timely and scholarly address on:—

"Our place in the plan of the Great Architect of the Universe."

We make the following striking extracts:—

"Aaron Burr had all the advantages of citizenship in our glorious young republic that Alexander Hamilton had. But Hamilton had an appreciation of his nation that has made him an outstanding character in its history; and though Burr lived to be 80 and Hamilton died at 47 we think of the latter as one whom the nation delights to honour. Hamilton was a Statesman. Burr was a Politician. The day before the duel Hamilton spent "putting his house in order," adjusting his affairs, and making his peace with the Great Architect of

the Universe. Burr spent the day in pistol target practice. When the critical hour came Hamilton shot into the air, Burr shot to kill, because he hated his rival. It is the appreciation of God's attitude to us and our response to it and co-operation with it that gives it real value in our life.

"A fundamental principle in these laws is that there returns to us from society just what we contribute to society. No man ever went forth to his daily routine with a frown and received a smile—unless it were from a menial who feared him.

"I know all men are not equal in ability; but in the sight of the Creator all are equally worthy of respect as men, and entitled to an opportunity according to their ability. And upon the most superior devolves the tremendous responsibility of serving and helping the so-called inferior ones, and not of dominating them. Service is basic to harmony. Appreciation of the true value of others is the foundation of service. Cowper expresses it well in his

"'Nightingale and Glow-worm.'"

The presentation of Jewel was a pleasant episode thus described:—

"The Grand Chaplain, Companion Campbell L. MacKay, on behalf of Grand Chapter, in a very intimate and consummate manner, presented a Past Grand High Priest's jewel to the retiring Grand High Priest, M.E. Companion John H. Wine-land. Being pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Elkhart where 'John' serves as a Ruling Elder, the Grand Chaplain could properly give the advice that would naturally come from father to son; and the son rose to the occasion in making felicitous response."

Comp. John Stevenson, of Stratford, represents Indiana near Canada.

The Council of High Priests met as usual, Comp. Goff, of Michigan, being present.

The annual Capitular Review of Comp. Woods thus begins:—

"In submitting this, my fourteenth annual review of the Capitular world, there is the consciousness of having tried to do something worth while, and although it is not what the writer would desire as a finished and perfect product, yet if the good Companions of Indiana will administer it to themselves, in large or small doses, it surely will widen their understanding of what Royal Arch Masonry really is, and give them a broader conception of the great work we are trying to do, for ourselves in particular and mankind in general. We are not standing still by any means, but are forging ahead in the exercise of our privilege to ease the burdens of the

afflicted and to open the door of education and opportunity to the needy sons and daughters of the Fraternity."

Alabama always furnishes something of interest and this time the following:—

"A decision, which was approved, recites that a Brother had received two degrees in the Chapter when he was stopped by objection from further advancement, and holds that he receive a dismissal certificate and the return of one-half the fees. The general practice, and in my opinion the only equitable course, would have suggested that the Brother had an equity in the remaining degrees and the objecting Companion should have been required to file charges and had same sustained in trial before other disposition of the case was attempted."

"The present is a fast age, and the old is giving way to the new.

Ought we not make pause before laying aside the wisdom of the fathers?"

An Arkansas ruling is not approved by our confrère:—

"Among his decisions we find one declaring that a Chapter has a right to loan or donate its funds without restrictions, which strikes this reviewer as bad law."

California is another Jurisdiction which always stimulates comment:—

"He granted a number of special dispensations, which the jurisconsults declared to be 'in accordance with the Constitution,' but four of them were 'to ballot on petition without reference to a committee,' which looks like railroading with a vengeance, a condition not to be thought of in Indiana for a moment.

"He believes in educating the youth of our land in patriotism, and to this end the Order should see to it as individuals that the school books are of the right kind, such as to arouse a proper pride in America. He further adds:

"To-day some of our teachers seem to regard patriotism as an unimportant by-product of education, and as far less important than the dismal science of political economy. Yet, in the crises of the past, our nation has been aroused, not by political economy, but by patriotism."

Canada is reviewed copiously and in friendly spirit. He says:—

"The address of Grand Z. splendidly outlines a good stewardship. From his exordium we select the following sentiment:

"Let us ever be on the alert to make the activities of our Royal Craft the stream that warms and tempers the current of modern civilization, by ministering to human sufferings, eliminating class distinctions."

"Of De Molay for boys, he says that 'if for any reason this object is lost sight of, or obscured, our Royal Craft has no real place in the world as it exists to-day; unless we can show actual evidence of a practical application of our truths and morals in uplifting work being carried out, thinking men will have neither the time nor the inclination to consider our aims.'"

Of the Grand Superintendents he says:—

"To their zeal and faithfulness may be attributed much of the success of Capitular affairs in the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Companion Ponton has an exhaustive report on the condition of Capitular Masonry, which contains so many excellent suggestions that it is impossible in this brief space to make a selection.

"Companion Ponton furnishes the Report on Fraternal Correspondence; it covers 170 pages and is a most efficient review of Capitular Masonry throughout the world. Indiana for 1922 has ample and fraternal consideration, and he is pleased to quote quite liberally from our Proceedings. We take pleasure in excerpting his conclusion:

"Our continental circumambulation from station to station is ended, our overseas voyage over—and from the home haven we return thanks for the rich cargo and store of terrestrial treasure, which we have garnered in our contact with men whose hearts God has touched.'"

We appreciate the hand of fellowship thus extended:—

Our reviewer is not afraid to speak his mind as we find under Connecticut:—

"Four of his special dispensations permitted Chapters to hold 'regular' convocations on days and hours other than specified in their by-laws, which the Jurisprudence Committee, on account of 'unavoidable contingencies,' approved. This is a chronic sickness in Connecticut, for it happens every year. We hope some day to see our Chief Executives decline to violate the laws as expressly provided and thus do their part to uphold the dignity of the institution to their subordinates. It is impossible to idealize a condition where such dispensations work for good, either to the candidate or the Chapter concerned. We have often remarked that emergencies do not exist, at any time, anywhere, but that we manufacture them. Some day, candidates will enter by the regular channel,

orderly and respectfully, in all things awaiting *our* will and pleasure.

"Under Canada, where the Companions appear fearsome of the terrifying ladies of the Eastern Star, he observes that there is no thought of anything like Masonic recognition and is convinced the Eastern Star itself does not want it. He further adds:

"But, while as organizations Masonry and the O.E.S. are entirely separate, we cannot blink the fact that all of these ladies are close relatives of our brethren and as such come within the scope of our obligations.'"

From England he culls this information:—

"To render the object of this intelligible, it must be explained that lodges held within ten miles of Freemasons' Hall, London, are 'London Lodges,' and are not included in any Provincial organization; hence their members were unable to obtain any distinction as a reward for their services but that of Grand Lodge Office, to which very few could hope to attain, so Grand Master adopted the conferment of 'London Rank' as a simple way to meet the wishes of the London Masons. Now it seems to have been carried on into Capitular Masonry for the benefit of the Companions in London."

The review of Comp. Chambers, of Quebec, always finds favour or gives thought to his confrères, and, referring to a previous review, Comp. Woods says:—

"Indiana for 1922 has ample and fraternal review. He says the right to 'make Royal Arch Masons at sight' is analogous with the relations of the American Grand Chapters to the General Grand Chapter, and that Indiana, for instance, ought not to grumble if Pennsylvania claims its prerogative to make Royal Arch Masons when it chooses. To me it is anything but analogous. One is constitutional, adopted by the legislative body according to duly recognized constitutional methods, while the other is an assumption of power by the Grand High Priest under the guise of prerogative, which is not prerogative but license, for a chief executive has no more right under the constitution to assume powers not definitely granted to him than has a High Priest."

Under Virginia he speaks of our old friend Comp. Eggleston as follows:—

"He comments with good judgment."

And we quote in closing his conclusion:—

"The opinions of other labourers in the Masonic vineyard have been submitted for your instruction, and these often

clash, as the viewpoints of the several writers vary. But it is all for the best. The readers of reviews for several successive years will know how an abstract statement made by one, disputed or elaborated by another, has at length evoked what has become the settled doctrine of the Craft. To be but small in such a guild, therefore, has been a matter of satisfaction and real pride to the writer of this review; and he has been engaged in the business in the spirit of contributing the best results he can command, even though it is only possible for him to drop a pebble in the sea of controversy and conclusion."

Lawrence Victor Mays, Pendleton, Grand High Priest.

Robert Archer Woods, Princeton, Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

Harry E. Virden, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 23,860.

Net loss, 84.

The Seventy-second Annual Convocation convened in Carroll, Iowa, 8th October, 1925. The Grand Master of Iowa and Frederick W. Craig (himself an Iowan), Past General Grand High Priest and others were received with grand honours.

Canada's Grand Representative like so many of our Representatives in the United States preferred the "absent treatment" and did not answer the roll call.

British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Sackatchewan were all personally represented at the altar.

The Grand High Priest gracefully says:—

"Companions, I take great pleasure in thanking you for the whole-hearted support that turned a heavy duty and responsibility into a real pleasure."

With regard to the small net loss he says:—

"This past year has been one of re-construction. Now it is in cool blood and after deliberate consideration that membership is being sought. In figures then we cannot make the glowing reports of the past years. However, Capitular Masonry is truer to its historic past when it searches with a scrutinizing eye the character of its applicants."

They have in Iowa the same trouble with arrears of dues that we have in our Grand Jurisdiction, with regard to which and with regard to delinquent and unambitious Chapters he frankly says with a vim which on occasion should be more often used by our responsible governing heads:—

“It is impossible to say too much about unpaid dues. It has been my policy very largely to visit a number of Chapters at their regular meetings and to make visits unannounced. I wished to see how these meetings were attended and the regular business conducted. I found the attendance at these meetings, on the whole, inexcusably poor, and the manner of transacting business indifferent without justification.”

Among his decisions he held that a demit asked for in January and another asked for in the regular Convocation in December and held over till January involved both applicants in the double payment of dues, for the past and the coming year. Another Dispensation asked for was refused as it ought to have been:—

An applicant wished to receive the Capitular degrees before going abroad but was booked to sail in a few weeks. The High Priest asked if they could receive and ballot on his petition the same night. This request was of course refused.”

A Dispensation to elect officers at a special Convocation was refused, but the reason given is a unique one:—

“This I refused, as a Grand High Priest or a Chapter cannot tell ahead of time whether a quorum would be present or not.”

The Grand High Priest had attended Grand Lodge and had been cordially received. He thus concludes:—

“My year as your presiding officer has ended, but I hope my service to Capitular Masonry has just begun.”

The Grand Secretary thus comments on the weeding-out process:—

“While our gain in membership has been on the wrong side of the ledger, it is but the inevitable cleaning up and sifting that is bound to come in every organization; the slag

and clinkers have to be cleaned out but the pure metal remains and like the tree that is trimmed will soon put forth new branches."

From the able report of the Committee on Necrology we take the following extracts:—

"Wise men have speculated about it, philosophers have dreamed about it, poets have written, but what comes after death is still a matter of faith."

"They are sometimes symbolized by the Tetrahedron or Triangular Pyramid. Its surface being four equilateral triangles, no matter which side forms the base, the figure always points upward.

"Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath,
And stars to set—but all,
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death.'

"Then fear we death? Not so,
Or do we tremble? No!
We jointly, thou and I,
Implore a little longer date,
A little term of kind reprieve—
A little lease till by and by!"

The Committee on the address emphasizes and approves the Grand High Priest's remarks as to non-payment of dues in the following words:—

"The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, in his address, deals at length with the matter of unpaid dues. We feel that his statements are very pertinent and that the suggestion that a travelling Auditor be appointed by this Grand Chapter, to visit each Chapter at least once in every four years, taking one-quarter of the Chapters each year, and in addition that such Auditor be empowered with authority to suspend at once those members who have not paid their dues, in accordance with our Code, 'is timely and good.'"

The Board of Custodians, an important body in Iowa, say among many other subjects treated of:—

"The work of the annual schools has been carried forward in the manner prescribed by the law, and with five exceptions all of the Chapters have received instruction during the year."

In Iowa they believe in the shining morning face and of adjourning early in the second day, so they

were called from refreshment to labour at eight o'clock a.m.—a laudable example of energy coupled with good results

Comp. D. B. Aylesworth, of Eldora, a name familiar to us in Canada, represents us near the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and Comp. Ed. Lankin, of Toronto, represents Iowa.

Many In Memoriam pages are given to the Dead, prefaced by the following verse by Albert Pike:—

“Forget not the dead who have loved, who have left us,
Who bend o’er us now from their bright home above,
But believe, never doubt, that the God, who bereft us,
Permits them to mingle with friends they still love.”

Portraits and sketches of Past Grand Officers contained in the various Proceedings are indexed and referred to by volume and date, a very instructive recapitulation of the biographies of those who have ruled the Iowan Royal Craft.

The Order of High Priesthood met and evidently are more than a formal body.

From the address of the President we take these sentences, and having been privileged to enjoy the ceremony in two of the United States Grand Jurisdictions, we can gladly approve of what he says:—

“The Order of High Priesthood is not a compulsory Order, and those who have not, or do not seek admission into this Holy Order, do not know or realize that this is one of the most instructive and impressive degrees in Masonry, as all who have received it give testimony of its beauty and importance, and are ever ready to laud its purpose.

“We delight and receive pleasure in conferring this Order because of the beautiful and impressive lessons taught.”

The Correspondence is by M. Ex. Comp. Edward M. Willard, P.G.H.P., who does good work and true. In his introduction he says:—

“Capitular Masonry is doing a practical work throughout the Nation.

“The elimination of certain features tending to create mirth is a wonderful improvement and having a splendid effect.

“There is but one life to live and God intends us to so improve ourselves that the living of that life is worth while, for it is:—

“Not what you get, but what you give;
Not what you say, but what you live;
Giving the world the love it needs,
Living a life of noble deeds,
Not whence you came but whither bound;
Not what you have but whether found.
Strong for the right, the good, the true—
These are the things worth while to you.’”

From Alabama he quotes:—

“The search for light goes forward with the passing years. So long as the Craft continues to carry on in that direction there is a certainty of hope ending in fruition.”

California gives him the following:—

“He also delivered a number of addresses on Capitular Masonry before the Blue Lodges and Masonic Clubs in various parts of the state.

“Everywhere he found the Companions helpful courteous and hospitable. Sectionalism does not exist among the Chapters in California.”

Canada is fully reviewed and in appreciative spirit. He summarizes with approval the address of Grand Z. Davis and quotes as follows:—

“May we keep in mind that the officers bestowed on us by our Companions have been called for service to the Royal Craft. The keynote of Masonry is service; service to our fellows, our Lodges and Chapters, our Country, our God. May we one and all endeavour to give such service that the world will be brighter and better for our having lived in it.

“As Douglas Malloch says:—

“We walk the path the great have trod,
The great in heart, the great in mind,
Who looked through Masonry to God,
And looked through God to all mankind,
Found more than word or sign or grip,
Found man's and God's relationship.’”

R. Ex. Comp. Gardiner's able review on the Condition of Capitular Masonry is singled out for special notice as it deserves and for commendation and quotation. He says:—

“We are in accord with the splendid report of the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry. We excerpt part of it:—

“Too much stress cannot be given in the very great danger that lurks, unseen and unsuspected, behind the assumption that the success or failure of our Chapters depends solely upon the number of candidates admitted to membership during the year.

“Among the strongest links of our Masonic chain is the link of friendship. Every opportunity should be given the Companions to fraternize, to enjoy each other's company, to strengthen the ties of fraternal relationship by the bond of brotherhood.”

With our own review he is pleased and says:—

“The correspondence was prepared by Companion Ponton. He is a successful writer and we enjoyed his report. We excerpt:—

“‘Here we find in these Grand Jurisdictions, these laboratories of human potencies—many men, many minds—unity in diversity—that touch of nature and of wisdom that makes and keeps the whole world kin and kind.’”

“Iowa's 1923 Proceedings received kindly review.”

Under General Grand Chapter he reports a part of the late Dr. Kuhn's farewell address and as this is our last opportunity we reproduce part of it as follows:—

“I appreciate more than heart or lip can utter, the sincere greetings, the hearty handclasp and the many kindnesses shown me, wherever I have gone. But there are personal things that every man should appreciate and cherish through life, yet personal courtesies are incomparable to the soul and the spirit of Royal Arch Masonry from which they spring. If men are made to realize that—

“‘We are living, we are dwelling
In a grand and glorious time;
In an age, and ages telling,
To be living is sublime.’”

much will be accomplished.

“The pessimist is abroad in the land and wails and groans are heard everywhere. But fear not. Let us be optimistic for the Eternal Years of God are His. His law is one of evolution. An advancement and not retrogression. An evolution to higher and better things is a universal law.

“Dr. Kuhn stood for things that are truly worth while, with a confidence which none dare challenge.”

From Georgia he passes on to all Royal Arch Companions their good work, which we hope Canada

will emulate both in this respect and also in regard to the Masonic Home, for which we are ripe:—

“The Committee on Education reports that the majority, if not all of these young people, who are now receiving help from you will enter the schoolroom of our State. Their influence will touch and mould the lives of hundreds of Georgia boys and girls. The future of no state or country is secure unless it is assured by the education of its citizenship, therefore, by the education of Georgia boys and girls we are insuring the perpetuity of the state we love so well.”

Of those who have passed the veils in Michigan he quotes:—

“Both of these Companions were of sterling qualities. It can be said of them:—

“There are men that time but mellows
As it ever onward goes,
There are those who carry fragrance
As the fragrance of the rose,
There are those who are as sunbeams
As they go their daily rounds,
They are worthy of remembrance
For but seldom they are found:
So I pay this humble tribute
Though it needs a worthy pen,—
To a Prince of Nature's moulding,
One who loved his fellowmen.”

Iowa furnishes us with many poetic selections and our confrère takes this from Nova Scotia:—

“When my brother speaks a word of praise
My wavering will to aid,
I ask if ever their long, long ways
My words have brighter made.
And to my heart I bring again
This eager, earnest plea:
Make me a friend to as many men
As are good staunch friends to me.”

And this from South Carolina:—

“Rich?—Why, I'm a millionaire,
I'm richer than Cræsus there;
Not in the cash I hold,
Not in the terms of gold,
But in the dividends
Paid in the love of friends.”

And this from West Virginia:—

“Lift up the cry, O Craftsmen,
Until your voice is heard,
From all around, and by the sound,
The souls of men are stirred.
Make all the halls re-echo,
Till every tribe and clan
Catch up again the glad refrain,
The Brotherhood of Man.”

Under Washington the Grand Orator's fine address is worthy of reproduction and he quotes:—

“Masonry is compared to a temple. All temples have a foundation and a superstructure. The foundation of Masonry is laid in God and His eternal Truth, and the temple proper is built of Man, polished, purified and beautified. A temple is significant of beauty both internally and externally. With our temple the external beauty should be the expression of the internal, for man is only beautiful insofar as his heart is pure and good.”

The Seventy-third Annual Convocation will be held at Dubuque, October 14th, 1926.

Comp. Arthur D. Meeker, Ames, Grand High Priest.

Comp. O. F. Graves, Harlan, Grand Secretary.

IRELAND.

The Right Hon. The Lord Muskerry, M.E. Grand King.

Membership not given.

In order that the Irish titles and the rank may be understood by our Canadian and other Companions, we give here the full list of the chief Officers of the Grand Lodge. It will be noted that the King reigns supreme and the Grand High Priest takes a subordinate position with the Chief Scribe:—

The Right Hon. The LORD MUSKERRY, M.E. Grand King.
Col. Sir WILLIAM TAYLOR, K.B.E., C.B.,
M.E. Deputy Grand King.

THOMAS J. SMALLEY, M.E. Grand High Priest.
GEORGE M. IRWIN, M.E. Grand Chief Scribe.
OLIVER FRY, J.P., V.E. Grand Treasurer.
HENRY C. SHELLARD, V.E. Grand Registrar.
Rev. H. BRODIE GOOD, M.A., V.E. Grand Chaplain.
Rev. S. COCHRANE, B.A., V.E. Junior Grand Chaplain.
GEORGE METCALFE, V.E. Grand Captain of Host.
WILLIAM J. McCLELLAND, M.A., V.E. Grand Superintendent of the Tabernacle.
R. BLAIR WHITE, V.E. Grand Royal Arch Captain.

The Grand Registrar having submitted the proofs of the Annual Report to the Grand King, an official reply was duly received with comments. From this letter we take the following:—

“I see our old friend the late Grand First Principal of Antrim, has sent what he describes as his last report. He is to be greatly congratulated on the success which has attended R.A. Masonry in his District during the fourteen years which he presided over it. He has left a long and honourable record behind him, and I in common with all other R.A. Masons of his own District and elsewhere wish him on his retirement many happy years of that ease which his services have merited.

“I think on the whole I may congratulate my Companion R.A. Masons of Ireland on the continued prosperity of the Order.”

The election of two new District First Grand Principals as they are called, is thus referred to in the Proceedings:—

“Owing to the resignation of two old and respected Companions, M.E. W. Redfern Kelly and M.E. William H. Beamish, the officers of District First Grand Principals in Antrim and Munster became vacant. To fill the former M.E. Sir Robert Baird was elected and for the latter M.E. Dr. N. Henry Hobart.”

Eight warants for new Chapters were issued, all Apparently in Ireland.

The July Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter was held in Belfast with a large attendance of Companions, M.E. The Lord Muskerry, Grand King, presiding.

The following paragraph is of interest:—

"During the year recognition was extended to the following Grand Chapters:—New South Wales, Rhode Island, Michigan, Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan."

M.E. Col. the Rt. Hon. R. H. Wallace writes from his District of Down:—

"In the month of July the Stated Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Ireland was held in Belfast. This had been looked forward to by our Companions with much pleasure, but they were, I am afraid, somewhat disappointed by the brevity of the proceedings. Several had travelled a considerable distance in order to be present.

"Our Masonic Jewels are well supported by the Subordinate Chapters. In a word—I am glad to report that all is well with District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Down."

M.E. Dr. N. Henry Hobart writes from Munster:—

"Generally speaking, R.A. Masonry is doing good work in the Province. The standard of working is very good indeed."

The Provincial Grand Superintendent of South Africa writes:—

"Royal Arch Masonry continues to make satisfactory progress in South Africa, and more interest appears to be shown than in the past.

"On the 17th March my Deputy, V.E. Comp. Robert Ellison, constituted the first Irish Chapter in Rhodesia, viz.: the "St. Patrick," at Salisbury. I can say that this Chapter has a great future before it."

The receipts for the year total £2,333 Sterling.

Some of the typical Irish names of Chapters will revive memories among those who came or whose forefathers came from the Old Sod. I select a few as follows:—

"Skibbereen, Vowferry, Ballymacarrett, Ballymoney, Dro-more, Rathfriland, Tandragee, Mullingar, Templepatrick, Loughbrickland, Raloo, Aughnacloy, Ballynahinch, Tullamore, Castleblayney, Cargycreevy, Donaghadee.

The volume which is preceded by a photograph of the late Edward Gibson, Grand Superintendent of Tabernacle, is a thin one but like an Irishman, has "fulfillment in its tongue."

Henry C. Shellard, V.E., Grand Registrar.

KANSAS.

William Easton Hutchison, M. Ex. Grand High Priest

Membership, 21,356.

Net gain, 569.

The Sixtieth Annual Convocation met in the Scottish Rite Temple, Wichita, February 23, 1925.

The fine, clear-cut portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Hutchison with his keen judicial face and features appropriately adorn the Proceedings.

The Grand Representatives, including Roy H. Clossen, representing Canada, were on roll-call received at the altar.

Distinguished visitors from Michigan and other Jurisdictions were welcomed.

Eleven Past Grand High Priests added dignity to the East.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address far above the average in thought and expression. We quote for the benefit of our Canadian Companions the following from his introduction:—

"The car of state has been so thoroughly remodelled, renovated, rebuilt and equipped during the administration of my illustrious predecessor that no serious defects were detected in its mechanism during the trip, nor does it now stand in need of repairs at the end of this annual journey. The momentum it had acquired under previous successful administrations enabled it to safely traverse the desert route of financial depression and business discouragement of the first one-third of the year, and exultantly speed through the rich plains of Shinar with boundless fields of golden wheat and other evidences of abundance, business success and contentment on every side during the later two-thirds of the journey. The steep grades of the journey were made by the efficient work of every piece of machinery and the hearty co-operation of every officer and member of the organization, and the occasional application of the conservative and emergency brakes of Freemasonry prevented casualties and calamities on any and all precipitous declines. The stockman on the prairie, in making up his estimate of the year's work, thinks first of the increased number of his herd, and then of the flesh they have taken on or added during the year. But with this satisfactory growth and increase numerically, we might very justly question the right to a showing of profit on the balance sheet of the year's work unless the

other 20,000 Companions have become further EXALTED than ever before, and have supplemented their Masonic facilities and inclinations for usefulness by making still further and more important discoveries in their constant search for the Word—the search after Divine Truth. This and this only is the Mason's work and the Word is the Mason's reward."

Of the late Dr. Kuhn he said:—

"Every hearer knew that a great man had fallen and with his armour on. The Angel of Death, who is none other than the Ambassador of the Larger Life, had called him to higher and greater fields of labour and helpfulness."

He visited the General Grand Chapter by the Canadian route. It is gratifying that he found it satisfying and thus expresses himself:—

"We went by Grand Trunk line through Canada to Niagara Falls, later down the St. Lawrence River, passing the Thousand Islands to Montreal on the boat, thence by rail on the 6th of September. It was a fine trip and the courtesy over the mountains in daylight to Portland, arriving there shown our party by the special representative of the Grand Trunk line made it most interesting and pleasant."

The Grand Lecturer visited all the Chapters in the State and was allowed \$2,914 for his expenses and per diem.

He expresses satisfaction with business conditions as follows:—

"All the reports have been received and all the remittances made on time. So, for the first time, every Chapter is entitled to representation in this Grand Body—a goal to which our worthy Grand Secretary has been aspiring these many years."

Of gratitude he says and thus expresses it to the Grand Secretary whom he thus describes:—

"Gratitude is said to be the least of all virtues, but the absence of it the greatest of all vices. Our Grand Secretary, a walking encyclopedia of Masonry and Masonic usages, customs and procedure, is an ever present and indispensable help in time of trouble."

From his conclusion we take the following:—

"I shall, of course, proudly surrender the gavel of authority to my worthy successor, to be designated by you, but I shall want to retain the working tools of my profession and continue to use them as long as I live, to help, aid and

assist my companions in the great and glorious work of rebuilding the House of the Lord.

"The world has never had a greater need of service for fellow man, never afforded a greater opportunity for unselfish usefulness. Masonry, having stood the test of generations, is peculiarly fitted to be a channel through which this stream of service may run most successfully and appropriately."

The Grand Secretary's report is full and clear.

Of the relationship of Chapter to the Lodge and *vice versa*, he says:—

"In posting up the records from year to year we find it frequently happens that a Chapter is carrying members who were suspended in their Lodges several years previous, and which suspension in the Lodge operates as suspension in the Chapter. This could easily be overcome if the Grand Chapter provided that such Companion should present his Lodge receipt for dues at the time he pays his dues to the Chapter."

There are some defunct Chapters, and their members who failed to secure the usual Grand Secretary's certificates are 'Masons at large' and liable to suspension.

The report of the Committee on Grand Officers says:—

"To assimilate the dynamic power of Masonry and to lead men in right thoughts and actions is our duty and destiny. We voice the appreciation of this Grand Chapter for the leadership of this closing year.

"The unprecedented condition of our records and reports is the expected harvest from the long and faithful sowing of our Grand Secretary."

R. Ex. Comp. Charles A. Conover, General Grand Secretary, was the speaker of the day and delivered a wonderful address on the origin and development of the Royal Arch system which with other material we hope to see some day published in book form.

The following extracts are both educating and interesting:—

"The general opinion is that the essentials of what we know now as the Royal Arch were communicated long before the first definite reference to the degree, but under another name. Of course that is just the sort of information that cannot be put into print.

"Freemasonry as an operative science was old when Royal Arch Masonry was started.

"In commenting upon some brothers who seemed to be backward in bringing up work in the form of readable articles of Masonic interest, he said:—

"To those brethren who are chary of recording their impressions in print, I would say—"No man is his Craft's Master the first day." There must be a beginning in everything. Men must learn before they are competent to teach. Bnt, alas, if there are no candidates for the apprentice stage, the Masters themselves will dwindle away and in due time cease to exist."

"Believing that the Royal Arch degree originated in Great Britain, I appealed to a Companion sojourning in England to interview for me some of the Masonic scholars of that country and to browse in several reference libraries and museums of London and see what material he could discover.

"All three papers have been issued in pamphlet form and distributed through the Educational Bureau of the General Grand Chapter. All this convinces me that there is a growing demand for 'More Light' as the number of Royal Arch Masons increase, and although the percentage of Masonic students as compared with the 'watch-charm' Masons is small, yet I am glad to see the ranks expanding.

"Masons are waking up to the fact that there is something in Freemasonry besides a 'degree mill.' More power to them all.

"Some of our 'King Solomon' Masons who believe that our Order originated in the fertile brain of our so-called 'First Grand Master,' and who believe nothing could be changed, even the omission of a fly-speck over an 'i' or a cross bar on a 't' are really coming to realize that our great Order is in reality 'a system of allegory veiled in symbols' which when investigated brings out wonderful and fundamental Truths."

He acknowledges his indebtedness to a Quatour Coronati paper by R.W. Bro. Kelly on the "Advent of Royal Arch Masonry" and quotes from it several pages. He adds:—

"Some time in or about the year 1739 or 1740, the newly-created Royal Arch degree was introduced into Great Britain from the Continent of Europe, possibly by way of London.

"British Grand Chapters still maintain that any Lodges of those constitutions which desire to have benefits associated with the Royal Arch degree have the right to the establishment of a Royal Arch Chapter in connection therewith."

HIS address was replete with instruction.

The report on Necrology is philosophic, but we doubt the wisdom of the emphasis on the cross in

the Royal Arch to which certain Hebraic Companions cannot subscribe. See, however, the recent dictum of Rabbi Wise.

Queensland received fraternal recognition.

As to suspensions the Committee say:—

“Your Committee would urge every Chapter to use its best endeavours to check this alarming increase in the number of suspensions, that we may not lose so many of these valuable members.”

The Grand Chapter donated to the Endowment Fund of the Masonic Home \$10,000, a worthy example to us in Canada when the time comes, as it should come soon.

Kansas is represented by M. Ex. Comp. John M. Gibson, of Hamilton, Canada.

From the biographical sketch of M. Ex. Comp. Hutchison we learn:—

“That he is a brilliant lawyer and judge, that he came from Pennsylvania in search of health to Kansas when it was a frontier State where he mingled with the elements of a rough frontier life, and retained their respect and regard. It is a part of the chronicles of that place and time that he was the only man who went forth each day wearing a high hat and collar, a white tie, and Prince Albert coat, and got away with it.

“A tireless worker in his profession, he has found time to be of great service to his fellow-man; for many years he has been a member of the Kansas Masonic Home Board, and his whole heart, and much of his time, have been given to the welfare of the Home.

“He stands forth among his fellow-men as an honored citizen, a just and upright Mason, and a Christian gentleman.”

The Order of High Priesthood was conferred upon 53 candidates last year and upon 53 this year.

The Foreign Correspondence is in the skilled hands of Grand Secretary Wilson who in his introduction says:—

“As a general rule, more attention is being paid to the principle involved in Royal Arch Masonry and which was so beautifully illustrated throughout the addresses made by our late Past General Grand High Priest Kuhn.

“The Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, so far as any actual constructive work is concerned, amounted to

very little, but from a social point of view it was par excellence."

From California we glean the following:—

"In summing up the matter as a whole, he has the following to say, which is indeed interesting:—

"Yet there is still room for improvement. Our membership is smaller than it should be. Throughout the United States the average percentage of Master Masons who are Royal Arch Masons is 28.7 per cent. while in California it is only 21.7 per cent., nearly 25 per cent below the average—a condition which should fill us with determination to at least bring our percentage up to the average. We must remember and apply the precept of the poet Virgil:

"*Possunt, quia posse videntur,*"

(They can, because they think they can.)

Canada receives appreciative notice both as to quotation and comment, as witness the following extracts from our review:—

"Our Grand Representative was not present at this Convocation. We offered the same comment one year ago.

"The address of the Grand Z. is interesting throughout, and we are taking the liberty of quoting liberally from the same.

"They were honored with the presence of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, who was introduced to the Grand Z. by Companion Ponton in very pleasing words.

"But without regular attendance, without taking any active part in the proceedings of this Chapter, a union of minds and hearts is impossible."

As to the lightning speeches of two minutes which at the companionable luncheon held by us, he says:—

"Time seemed to be the essence of the contract and we regret that space will not permit of copying the remarks offered in the given length of time by the distinguished guests.

"The report on Correspondence was presented by Companion Ponton, and we take pleasure in quoting a part of his conclusion:—

"He must upward still and onward who would keep abreast of truth." "Under the Great Companion, our Leaders give us impetus—impulse—inspiration, helping to solve the problems of to-day, and unconsciously perhaps shaping unborn to-morrows. My colleagues, we have made the Grand Tours together—and in the retrospect we see the men who have the vision splendid but are not visionaries."

"His report includes a review of our Proceedings, and he courteously assigns us almost four pages of the report. This writer is sufficiently modest to feel that he has granted us more space than the report justified; however, we are grateful to him for the same."

For the benefit of his Companions (and ourselves) he quotes under Colorado:—

"The memory of Most Excellent Companion Greenleaf will flourish and will never die. His literary work will be his monument, and his 'Lodgeroom Over Simkin's Store' will be a light unto the feet of all good Masons until life shall be no more.

"All to ourselves, we think of you;
Think of the things we used to do;
Think of the things we used to say;
Think of each happy yesterday.
Sometimes we sigh; sometimes we smile;
But we keep each olden, golden while
On memory's golden file."

The Past Master's degree is always a problem in United States Jurisdictions, and while it does not exist either *de facto* or *de jure* in Canada, yet old associations will cling as most Companions will remember. All will therefore perhaps be interested in the following taken from the District of Columbia and passed on to us by Kansas:—

"The following is suggested as a proper form for conferring the Past Master's degree:—

"The officers conferring the degree should furnish the candidate a copy of the Chapter by-laws containing the regular order of business. The Secretary should have prepared and read a set of minutes as nearly as possible, in form, to minutes of a regular Masonic meeting. Under new business some subject of a purely Masonic nature may be brought out and discussion should be entered into by those present. All ridiculous motions should be avoided, and discussion confined to things that tend toward the Masonic enlightenment of the uninformed Mason.

"The following questions are suggested, or other questions may be submitted, according to the judgment of the officer in charge, which will test the candidate's knowledge of Masonic law and usage:—

"Is it lawful for a brother to pass between the altar and the East? If so, why?

"Can a petitioner withdraw his application?

"When can the fee of a petitioner be returned?

"When is a motion to lay on the table in order?"

"Can a Masonic Lodge be adjourned?"

"The above procedure is suggested to be used as a guide for the Constituent Chapters in conferring the Past Master's degree, and allows sufficient latitude to maintain both interest and enlightenment to the candidate and brethren. It is not the idea of your Committee to introduce radical changes, but we believe that discussion along the above lines will be interesting and instructive, and tend toward marked improvement in the degree.

"While we do not conform literally to the suggestions offered in the above, yet in a general way it is in thorough accord with our Work."

Florida gives him, as it gave us, food for thought and he reprints as we do, the following strong sentences:—

"When we have recognized lawlessness as a rampant peril, we must see along with it the multitude of people that are merely law-abiding people, those who accept the dead level of mediocrity as a standard, who are no better than the average, who in consequence are living, alike for themselves and for social welfare, utterly unsatisfactory lives. These multitudes carry the idea that they are content with any standard that allows them merely to 'get by' without censure. It requires effort, firmness, decision of character to set a standard of their own. The deadly average whose only desire is to 'get by' are not willing to put forth this effort.

"In a day when there is no hope for our civilization except in *Superior* character, goodly people should realize that the cause for which they sing means something besides singing—courage to live above the average and ahead of the time."

Direct and to the point is the following comment in his review of Idaho:—

"The practice of calling on Past High Priests to do the Work for the individual who wants the honor so that in future years he may stick out his stomach, wear a High Priest's jewel and look wise, is becoming so general that in a few years, when the faithful Past High Priests will have passed away, there will be no one left to confer the Capitular degrees, and the High Priests will then be obliged to resort to a reading of the Ritual."

From little but pungent Rhode Island come the following and other verses:—

"The longer on this earth we live and weigh the various qualities of men,
The more we see the plain stern featured beauty
Of plain devotedness to duty.
Steadfast, still not paid by mortal's praise,
But finding ample recompense,
In this world's ungarlanded expense
In work done squarely and unwasted days."

Under Virginia he says:—

"This is as it should be, for it promulgates that intimate connection which should ever exist between Ancient Craft Masonry and our Most Sublime degrees.

"Another excellent Report on Correspondence is presented by their faithful Companion Joseph W. Eggleston, whose fame as a Correspondent has spread both far and wide."

Most useful statistical tables embodying a survey of the world follow the review. He gives as the grand total membership of Grand Chapters 1,011,784, representing 6,034 Chapters, and the grand total of Craftsmen the world over as 3,955,308. These figures, of course, do not embrace those countries which are not officially recognized and to whose statistics we have not access.

The Sixty-first Annual Convocation will be held in Topeka, February 21, 1926.

M. Ex. Ben S. Paulen, Fredonia, Grand High Priest.

R. Ex. Albert K. Wilson, Topeka, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

A. Gordon Sulser, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 20,287.
Net Gain, 410.

The One Hundred and Seventh Annual Convocation was held in Louisville, October 21, 1924.

The record number of Past Grand High Priests, 21 in all, attended at the altar. All honour to this long loyal line of splendid men whose fidelity to their trust did not die with the doffing of their official robes.

The Grand High Priest's address (and it is a pleasure to know that he represents Canada near the Grand Chapter of Kentucky), is a thoughtful and outstanding production.

He says of the living and the dead:—

"I can tell you that the year, just past, has been one marked by a steady, wholesome growth in Capitular Masonry in Kentucky,—by an added material prosperity in the subordinate Chapters of this Grand Body,—and by such a condition of real understanding and singleness of purpose as has obviated the necessity for a single appeal to my authority, or a single intervention by me, in my official capacity.

"In the midst of the satisfaction and enjoyment, which are so much the part of every one of us, because of this opportunity for renewing old and happy associations, and for establishing new ones which shall survive, with added strength, down the marching years, still do our eyes grow softer and our hearts more tender—even regretful—as come to us the crowding memories of those dear friends and Companions who, since our last gathering, have entered within the Fourth Veil."

Of Dr. Kuhn he says:—

"A Prince in Israel has fallen, and Capitular Masonry, throughout the world, is deprived of one of its ablest, most learned, and most earnest advocates."

He singles out the late Grand Treasurer Johnson for the following tribute:—

"He was universally admired for the dignity with which he bore those honours, and the interest and knowledge in all things Masonic, of which he gave such broad and constant evidence."

And of the late Assistant Grand Secretary Hodges he quotes:—

"Not weaker now our chain, but stronger,
In all our loss and all our ill,
We still shall look a little longer
At every star above the hill—
And think of them, and have them still."

Several Chapters under Dispensation were duly "*set to work*," a phrase used frequently in Kentucky and fully expressive of the direction and the energy required to make our labour of love efficient.

He places great store upon inspection of Chapters and issued this edict:—

"Due and proper inspection of all Chapters in Kentucky will be made and reported within the time limit, hereinafter established. It is a strict legal requirement, and an absolute necessity, that every subordinate Chapter shall be so inspected, and the record of such inspection submitted to the Grand Chapter, for its attention; since, in that way, only can an accurate knowledge and understanding of the true condition of Capitular Masonry in Kentucky be obtained; and I am quite positive in my desire that there be not one single failure, in that respect, charged by the Committee on Inspections, during the next Convocation of the Grand Chapter."

And the result is thus positively and clearly set out in unmistakable terms:—

"There remain eight (8) Chapters which had not submitted to an official inspection up to the time of the preparation of this address. And, further, those eight (8) Chapters are, with but few exceptions, the same ones which have been delinquent, in this particular respect, so many times during the past years. I earnestly believe that this Grand Body should, in the future, resort to some very drastic action against such constant offenders."

A long correspondence with the neighbouring State of Tennessee with regard to the composite Chapter known as Ken-Ten, and disputed Jurisdiction is printed in full.

A strange case occurred in which a Companion of Kentucky was convicted of murder in New York City, but the conviction was set aside because of error, and on a second trial Comp. Creasy was honourably acquitted, largely through the untiring efforts and financial assistance of members of his own Chapter and Lodge.

Grand Chapter joined with Grand Lodge in making financial contribution to this most satisfactory result and surely the example set by our Kentucky Brethren should stir us some times in similar cases to action. It is not now safe for any Chapter or Lodge (especially in convictions under O.T.A) to act upon the decision of the Courts. There should be in all cases the regular Masonic trial.

With reference to the General Grand Chapter, Grand Secretary Holland is reported as having been honoured by election to office.

The Grand Secretary thus generously comments upon his friend and colleague, the late Grand Secretary Hodges:—

“He was generous, agreeable, and met his friends with a smile of pleasure and a welcoming hand. If he had been a man of great wealth, he would have bestowed his bounty, first on those near to and so loyally loved by him, but next would have come the hearty delight to minister to those to whom misfortune had come after kneeling at the altar of his Order.”

The Committee on Necrology reported:

During the year which has just rolled into the past one hundred and ninety-eight of our Companions have passed through the veils into the “Land of the Beautiful Dead.” It is mete, therefore, that we stand uncovered beside their new-made graves while we place in our archives a token of remembrance, that their virtues fade not from the memory of man.”

Kentucky’s philanthropic activities in connection with their wonderful Homes, in which both Chapter and Lodge are vitally and continuously interested, are well illustrated from the following extracts from the Committee’s report:—

“At the present there are 62 old Masons and four widows who are enjoying the comforts of the Old Masons’ Home at Shelbyville, and in conversation with a number of these old Brethren, we were convinced that everything possible was being done to make their declining years as nearly homelike as could reasonably be expected.

“At the Widows and Orphans’ Home, in Louisville, there are at present 36 widows, 202 girls and 235 boys, making a total of 474 residents who are enjoying the privileges and advantages provided by the generosity of Kentucky Masonry.

“The overcrowded condition of the quarters still exists, and constitutes the principal problem to be considered in any future improvements or recommendations.”

When will Canada print with pride similar statistics?

From the report of the Educational Trustees we learn:—

“The work of the Committee and its responsibilities continue to grow. Last year, we assisted fifty-seven children in securing higher and vocational education; this year we have seventy-seven boys and girls under our care.

The Committee on Visitors offer the following delightful report, subtle in its humor:—

“Your Committee on Visitors have been unable to discover any visitors with pronounced marks of distinction. We have searched several suspects but found no incriminating evidence.”

In Kentucky, as in other States, the roll is called at the termination of the meeting which is then closed in ample form, a good example for Canada to follow.

Kentucky is represented near Canada by Comp. John Graham, of London.

The Committee on Doings of Grand Chapters is Comp. William W. Clarke, whose original but brief reviews we have before commented on.

From Alabama we get this practical political suggestion:—

“The way to get the answer from Washington is for the individual Mason at home to let his Congressman and Senator know just how he feels about it, and if enough of them put it strong enough, the answer will be forthcoming.”

British Columbia receives very favourable review, and from it we quote:—

“The undoubted value of the correspondence report as an exchange medium of information, and the detailed review of the proceedings of each Jurisdiction is much more generally adopted and much more informative than the topical form.

“That the Order of De Molay for Boys is not a Masonic organization and admiration for its aims and objects does not require the sponsorship of the conduct of its affairs.

“The idea involved in the sponsoring of Chapters of De Molay is simply that the sponsoring body sees to it that the young fellows keep within bounds.”

Canada, 1924, is kindly and generously treated. Our confrère says:—

“After words of welcome to the attending representatives, the Grand Z. aptly and timely said:—

“‘No argument is needed to convince a Companion, who is awake to his obligations, that Royal Arch Masonry has some higher and nobler mission than the mere conferring of degrees; that the work of the Chapter room has a greater scope than the mere repetition of the Ritual.’

“He believes that the Order should become righteously militant. We quote with approval his observations under the caption ‘Making Progress.’

“The report on the condition of Capitular Masonry does credit to its able and gifted author, William N. Ponton. It is much too long for reproduction here, and so closely knit together is it, that it does not take kindly to excerption. We, however, quote these paragraphs. They are strongly suggestive of the whole:—

“In conclusion, all along the line, we note the loyal note struck by the Companions of this Royal and law-abiding Craft. No anarchy—no demagogues dallied with or fanatics tolerated. We express ourselves with no uncertain sound. We are positive, not negative. Of two evils we choose neither.’

“Our Companions in Canada are wisely cautious in referring to the Order of De Molay for Boys.

“The Grand Chapter of Canada will make no mistake in granting its approval of this Order.

“The report on Correspondence, admirable in every respect, and particularly attractive because of its charming rhetoric, is by William N. Ponton.

“Kentucky is sympathetically reviewed. We don’t know if Companion Ponton has a strain of Irish in his make-up, but note this: ‘The picture of the new Grand High Priest, James Garnett, which prefaces the proceedings is *facile princeps* among the handsome faces which adorn Capitular Masonry in the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States.’

“We appreciate kindly reference to ourself. He does us the honour to hope to see us some day Grand High Priest, and that is a compliment that gives us pleasure; but, nay, nay, Companion! Many years ago we let it be distinctly known by declining appointments which would have led to that goal, that we were not seeking or desiring official recognition in the Grand Chapter. Our work, we thought then, and think now, lay along other lines in the Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

Under District of Columbia he comments:—

“A laudable effort was made to ‘elevate the rendition of the Past Master’s degree to a more dignified plane, divesting it of frivolity and making it a medium of good and wholesome instruction to the candidate.’ A timely, laudable undertaking.”

From Illinois we get this illustrative story:—

“Now, I don’t believe America has reached the zenith of its possibilities or accomplishments, but we are on the way.

“A deacon out in Evanston was taken sick, who for many years had been a very prominent character. His illness was apparently quite serious and the family thought that, as he was sufficiently important in the community, they should let the public know the status of his case from time to time; so the family decided to issue bulletins, which were somewhat as follows:

"3:00 o'clock bulletin—Deacon Jones very ill.

"4:00 o'clock bulletin—Deacon Jones rapidly sinking; not expected to live.

"5:00 o'clock bulletin—Deacon Jones has gone to heaven.

"A wag came along, who didn't think as highly of the Deacon as the family did, and he took it upon himself to issue an extra 6:00 o'clock bulletin which read as follows:—

"'Extra 6:00 o'clock bulletin—Great excitement in heaven. The Deacon has not arrived yet.'"

Mississippi holds that a Charter can be granted without the Chapter first serving under Dispensation. Would this ruling be universal?

In New Hampshire, Comp. Clarke strikes this ambitions and fulfillable note:—

"Why should we not have a million members? Our source of supply is ample. The affiliated Master Masons of the United States number nearly three millions."

He speaks of the able and interesting review of Comp. Eggleston, of Virginia, and quotes and comments as follows:—

"Referring to certain comments of ours, he said:—

"'The answer is, why then have a General Grand at all? Objecting as we do to any printed ritual whatever, that alone would make us unalterably opposed to the General Grand. The ancient and only proper way to learn Masonic ritual has always been the "Attentive Ear listening to the Instructive Tongue." We dearly love Masonry for its antiquity and want nothing ancient lost.'

"Well, candidly, that is in the nature of a stunner. But, after all, what harm results? They may take themselves a little serious at times, but it doesn't matter. Let the members get together triennially and have a good time."

W. R. Johnston, Lebanon, Grand High Priest.

G. Allison Holland, Lexington, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

David Ettinger, M.E., Grand High Priest.

Membership, 9,140.

Net gain, 487.

The Grand Chapter convened in the Masonic Temple, New Orleans, February 3rd, 1925, in its Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation.

Nine Past Grand High Priests were present doing duty and the Grand Representative of Canada also answered the roll call at the altar.

From the address of the Grand High Priest we take this reference to the late Dr. Kuhn and to other Companions who have passed over:—

“A number of our Companions have passed through the white veil into the presence of the unseen Grand Council above, and permitted to enjoy that peace and blessing which are the result of a well spent life and received those welcome words, ‘Well done.’ Capitular Masonry has lost a zealous, conscientious and devoted worker—the chain of our circle is broken, and I fear it is difficult to replace the missing link.”

Under the State of the Order he frankly says:—

“The financial depression which has affected the commercial life of the Nation had also its depressing effect on this, and other branches of Masonry.

“I believe, however, the prospects are good and the foundation for a better year has been laid, and no doubt my successor will derive the benefit of our efforts.

“Our Institution is builded upon the principles of Love and Toleration, Patriotism, Unselfishness and Service. Let us by the practice of these virtues endeavour to bring about a better understanding among all the people.

“One of the Cardinal virtues of Masonry is toleration in religious belief. This is one of the reasons why Masonry has existed through the ages. Individual growth is dependent on liberty of thought and whoever seeks to check the free action of the human mind is an enemy to human progress. A nation lives or dies as its patriotism waxes or wanes. Any movement, then which increases love of country, veneration for its principles, admiration of its great men, respect for its laws, and honour for its flag is a patriotic movement.

“Education is the greatest legacy that we can bequeath to those that come after us.”

He made many visitations and appointed Past Grand High Priest Grimm as his representative, he being always ready “in promoting and disseminating Capitular Masonry.”

Four Chapters were constituted, of which he says:—

“All of these Chapters are doing well and will no doubt prove a valuable addition to Capitular Masonry in disseminating its beautiful lessons and philosophies.”

As to Dispensations the Grand High Priest holds:—

“Believing it to be for the good of the Chapters making the requests in their endeavour to make a better showing for their year’s work, I granted on two or three occasions a dispensation to ballot on candidates before the expiration of the time specified in the general regulations.

“I do not approve of the continuance of this practice, and would recommend that the Chapters be so notified, so they can in the future regulate their work accordingly, and avoid placing the Grand High Priest in an embarrassing position.”

To Grand Secretary Davilla he pays a worthy tribute:—

“To my Dear Friend and Companion John A. Davilla, Grand Secretary, I desire to express my gratitude and appreciation for the assistance he has given me. He has been kind and considerate, and always ready to lend his counsel and advice.”

The Committee on Law and Jurisprudence holds firm with regard to Dispensations, etc.:—

“We do not believe that the Grand High Priest, even in the goodness of his heart or by reason of his kindly disposition, should ever violate a plain provision of the Constitution.

“We, therefore, regret that this report does not approve his action.”

The Committee on Necrology quote:—

“One hundred and one good and true Companions have departed from the ranks of the different Chapters of the State during the year.

“They have found that peace that passeth all understanding and have entered into the joys hereafter provided.”

John W. Armstrong, of Welsh, represents Canada, and in addressing the Grand Representatives the Grand High Priest says:—

“And, as Masonry teaches, and continues to preach those beautiful doctrines of fraternity, of free thoughts and free speech, and, as Masonry encourages education, and civility, and enlightenment, so we hope that we will be able to bring about a better understanding, and a better feeling among the people of this world.”

R. Ex. Comp. Colonel W. Y. Mills, of Kingston, represents Louisiana near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The historical memorandum appended to the tables will be of interest to all who have followed the progress of this Grand Jurisdiction:—

“The Grand Chapter of the State of Louisiana was organized March 13th, 1813. It was a chamber in the Grand Lodge, whose officers were ex-officio the officers of the Grand Chapter. It was declared extinct by the General Grand Chapter of the United States in 1844. Its last convocation was held March 2, 1850, when its Chapters went under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the State of Louisiana, which was organized in 1848, May 1st, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.”

The Foreign Correspondence Report by Grand Secretary Davilla bears the impress of an experienced hand. In his introduction he says:—

“This is our fifth effort at reviewing the proceedings of the different Grand Chapters and can only express the hope that like the scriptural old wines in old bottles, age has improved the character of the product

“It is exceedingly pleasing to note that the revival superinduced by the extraordinary spirit and energy injected by our lamented General High Priest, William F. Kuhn, has not yet been dissipated.

“The key note we believe to this, has been the general acceptance of the rule of our governing Body, that the spirit of levity that had been permitted was not in keeping with the dignity of our Ceremonies, for this year we have been able to discover but isolated instances.”

He reviewed fifty-seven Jurisdictions.

Under Arizona he says:—

“He endorses the Sterling-Reed Bill now pending in Congress and recommends that every Royal Arch Mason of Arizona constitutes himself a committee of one to work for its passage.”

California expresses this truth:—

“The imperative necessity for mutual contact and co-operation has been realized by all.”

Canada receives generous treatment. Of the Grand Z.’s address he says and quotes:—

“Let us ever be on the alert to make the activities of our Royal Craft the stream that warms and tempers the current of modern civilization, by ministering to human sufferings, eliminating class distinctions, superstition and falsehood, and thus enabling men to live and move on the highest plane of

usefulness towards one another. Our beautiful ritualistic ceremonies will, if properly understood, tend to bring about this happy condition of affairs."

Of the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry he says and quotes:—

"Our attention is particularly attracted to the splendid report of the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry, from which we quote:

"Our Masonic life is the richer through this interweaving of the magic carpet of Freemasonry—and while each retains his loyal allegiance to his own Flag and Mother Grand Chapter, the cords are lengthened and the stakes are strengthened in that good will among men that makes for peace among nations—peace, productive and permanent peace—peace at the centre and the circumference.'"

And of this reviewer he is kind enough to speak the following words:—

"Foreign Correspondence is by Past Grand Z. Ponton, a Companion who is well known in the State as he is at home. It is a pleasure to quote the foreword from the splendid review that he presents.

'He is not at all niggardly with his space and furnishes one of the best reviews it has been our privilege to handle.'

"Louisiana receives a goodly share of his favourable comment."

With regard to decoration before instead of after completion of the year in office under Connecticut he says:—

"He reports that, after consultation with the Council officers, it was decided that the Grand High Priest should have a distinguishing mark other than his official badge and in consequence, the collar worn by him in the photograph was purchased. We congratulate him on his good taste."

He speaks of the marvellous growth of the Grand Chapter of England, no less than 43 petitions for new Chapters being granted during the year.

Georgia gives our confrère this opportunity, of which he takes advantage:—

"Spirituality among our members has increased, and we have grown in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord. All of us are becoming more thoughtful and more careful of our daily conduct. Good men are becoming better, and the evil man is learning the error of his way, and turning more to the Giver of Life.

"A competent and faithful Secretary is a treasure in any Masonic Body and should receive adequate compensation for his work whether it be by salary or percentage route.

"We are glad to note his expressions of the services of our co-labourer Grand Secretary McHan. It was our pleasure to meet him on one occasion and can testify to his geniality and affability."

Manitoba is fully reviewed and of the Grand Z.'s address he sincerely says:—

"The address of the Grand Z. is full of force and aggressiveness and shows the spirit of the men of the North."

Of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts and quotations therefrom:—

"Men everywhere are disturbed and questioning. Creeds have crumbled and the ethical foundations upon which alone nations and individual lives can be securely builded, seem to be seriously threatened.

"There is crying need for a rallying point for all who love manhood, country and God."

He commends the Grand High Priest of New York as a wonderful traveller, quoting his report:—

"In making these peregrinations about the State I have travelled by automobile, trolley, subway, boat or railroad train, the rather significant total of 31,977 miles."

Under Rhode Island he quotes these striking verses:—

"We are standing on the threshold, we are in the opened door,
We are treading on a border land we have never trod before,
Another year is opening, and many other years are gone.
We have passed the darkness of the night, we are in the
early morn.

We have left the fields behind us o'er which we scattered
seed;

We pass into the future, which none of us can read.

Then hasten to fresh labour; to thrash and reap and sow,

And bid the new years welcome and let the old years go.

Then gather all your vigor, press forward in the fight.

And let this be your motto: 'For God and for the Right!'"

Scotland produces a contagious touch:—

"Following is an extract from a report of one of the Grand Superintendents:

" 'We were most hospitably entertained by the 'Land of Cakes' in the quaint premises where the Chapter meetings are held, being the same (practically untouched) where on

Saturday, 19th May, 1787, Robert Burns, along with his companion, Robert Ainslie, were, as the old minute testified, 'made Royal Arch Masons,' Ainslie paying one guinea admission dues, 'but on account of R. Burns' remarkable poetical genius, the encampment unanimously agreed to admit him gratis,' and considered themselves 'honoured by having a man of such shining abilities for one of their companions.'"

Tennessee's review is cited with approbation. It commences thus:—

"Again, and for the fourth time, we have made our aerial flight to the different Grand Jurisdictions of the Capitular world."

Victoria gives the following food for thought:—

"Because he is a Freemason, he should be a better man all round, unselfish and considerate in his home, the soul of honour in business, of winsome personality, and ever willing and ready to sacrifice himself for the public good."

Under Virginia he says truly with the Grand Lecturer "visitors are quick to note an unattractive Lodge-room."

The Seventy-ninth Annual Convocation will be held at New Orleans, 2nd February, 1926.

Leon S. Haas, Opelousas, Grand High Priest.
John A. Davilla, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

David L. Wilson, M.E. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 17,398.
Net gain, 465.

The great event of the year 1924 was of course the entertainment of the General Grand Chapter who met in Portland September 10th, 1924, on which occasion there was a special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maine, the close of which is thus recorded:—

"At the conclusion of the addresses the Grand Chapter of Maine was closed without form, the various stations assumed by the General Grand Chapter Officers and the Thirty-ninth Triennial Convocation duly opened."

The One Hundredth Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was held at Portland, May 5th, 1925.

Fourteen of the fifteen living Past Grand High Priests were in attendance. This must have gladdened the hearts of the Companions.

Among the distinguished guests received with all the honours were the Grand Officers of New York, Rhode Island, Quebec, Massachusetts and General Grand High Priest Blake, who was specially introduced by a Committee composed of all the Past Grand High Priests. His address to the Companions was interesting and inspiring.

Canada's Grand Representative did not answer the call to duty.

The Grand High Priest delivered a very sensible address. From his introduction the following:—

"He has laid our walk in pleasant places, and has blest us with concord and prosperity within our mystic circle. Here may we find ample time for the cementing and strengthening of our splendid bonds of friendship. Here may we have larger visions of the great possibilities of service for humanity which lie before us. Here, in our deliberations; in our personal contacts one with another, may we find new inspirations for our respective duties and quickened zeal for the worthy cause in which we are engaged. Only so can we prove ourselves worthy of our trust. Of a worthy Companion he says: 'His genial personality and his kindly spirit have endeared him to our hearts, while his frequent visits here in other years have made him so much like one of us, that long ago have we destroyed the key to the unlockd door of our hearts, so that he may go in and out among at his own pleasure.

"The proper care of Books of Marks; the proper lettering of the Ark; the elimination of interpretations of the work which do not comport with the dignity of the Royal Craft and certainly tend to destroy the proper impression for the candidates; all these things should receive more attention among some of our Chapters than they do. The mere tabulation of statistics is by no means the sole criterion of judgment of the effectiveness and success of an organization. What it does and what it is are greater standards by which to judge its real worth."

He speaks appreciatively of the splendid co-operation of the Brethren of Maine and of their families in entertaining the General Grand Chapter, and says:—

"The genuine New England hospitality which was accorded our guests at every moment made me proud of the Craft in Maine and of our charming hostesses.

He declined to grant Dispensations for new Chapters to no less than three petitions on the ground of opposition and also because of the financial burdens resting upon bodies already established. He thus concludes in a spirit of devotion:—

"May He bring us increasingly to a clear appreciation of Capitalar ideals, and a larger expression of them in our life. Thus may we do honour to the name which we bear as Companions of the Royal Craft; prove ourselves of helpful service to humanity and build within ourselves a character which will fit us for an unending fellowship in 'that Temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.'"

Grand Scribe Peabody thus reports:—

"I have found four Arks correctly and five incorrectly lettered, and I have found a tendency in several Chapters to allow candidates to be exalted without selecting their Marks, trusting to good fortune to have it attended to in the future."

From the report of Comp. Davis the Grand Secretary, we take the following:—

"The Journal of Proceedings of the last Annual Convocation were printed and mailed ten days after the close of the meeting. This exceedingly quick time was only accomplished by the co-operation of the Tucker Printing Co., who took a special interest in making what I am confident is a record delivery."

Of Dr. Kuhn the Committee on Memorials say:—

"A great loss, but the memory of him is still sweet and vivid."

Happy responses were made by the Representatives of other Jurisdictions.

The Committee on Jurisprudence thus rule:—

"The Chapter is the creature of the Grand Chapter, and unless special provision is made in the premises only the Grand Chapter can give authority for the removal of the charter."

The Order of High Priesthood made and transacted much business.

Amendments to the Constitution since 1896 and to regulations are printed in full in the Proceedings.

From the In Memoriam Tablets, to each a page, the following verse is taken:—

“Whatever task was given him to do,
He did with all his might.
He was faithful in both great and small
And served the Truth and Right.”

Canada was represented by the late G. Sterling Ryerson, but Canada at the date of the meeting did not have a Grand Representative near Maine.

The Correspondence Report is in the hands of a veteran friend, Comp. Thomas H. Bodge, who does his full duty well by the different Jurisdictions.

Under Alabama he says:—

“Believing it to be for the best interest of the Craft I granted dispensations to ballot out of time and confer the Capitular degrees to the following Chapters:

“He named eleven, but did not state how many candidates were permitted to climb over the fence to get into the Capitular pasture more quickly than by the usual gate.”

His confrère from Arkansas receives this comment:—

“Comp Olney never quotes and rarely comments, preferring to garner as he goes along and scatter to his readers what he gathers which makes it hard to tell how he likes what others do—but he does let the Craft of Arkansas know how matters are proceeding in the Capitular world.”

He mentions with satisfaction the large endowment left to the Masonic Homes of California by Past Grand High Priest Lewis.

He reviews well Canada, 1924, and says:—

“Comp. Spencer treated several topics and among other things was enthusiastic about the De Molay. The year before the Committee on Address recommended a ‘judicious period of observation’ and this year advised the appointment of a special committee ‘to inquire into and report upon the advisability and practicability of establishing or endorsing the “Order of De Molay for Boys” within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.’

“The Fraternal Correspondence is by our genial friend and Companion Ponton who visited us two years ago and cemented more strongly the ties between our own Grand Chapter and that of Canada.

“Comp. Ponton, who is Past Grand Z., tells in a delightful way what happens in the different Grand Jurisdictions. Com-

ments are sparingly made, but he is writing for his Canadian members."

Under District of Columbia he finds opportunity for original comment as follows:—

"I have always felt that in the years to come we may be glad we were not operating as a Masonic force. Every Mason was working for humanity regardless of affiliation and I fear we might not have been so liberal in our gifts had we been permitted to act as a fraternity.

Observing the vote of the Grand Chapter of Illinois to do away with a banquet as the chief feature of its seventy-fifth anniversary, Comp. Jermane comments:

"In omitting the "eats," Illinois will almost be a pioneer. It is a move in the right direction. There has been, and still is, entirely too much catering to the inner man on occasions of this kind—the man who is of the earth earthy. It is high time that more attention was being paid to the man made in the image of his Creator, for that is the only man who has a higher level than that of the brute. I hope the Illinois example will be widely imitated. Down with the knife and fork Masons!"

He has ideas of his own as to Masonic round ups and says under Georgia:—

"Agreeably to the expressed wish of some (I think misguided) Companions he asked the various Chapters to round up candidates for a special hustle."

Of Clubs he says under Illinois:—

"My reason for giving so much space is because of the intimation some Masonic bodies in Maine have contemplated organizing (perhaps in some instances have organized) clubs for purely social purposes, sometimes conveying to the minds of the outside world that the bodies themselves are responsible for the acts of the club."

Indiana gives him this opportunity:—

"He keeps whacking away at those who readily set aside by-laws for the convenience of candidates, saying:

"We have often remarked that emergencies do not exist, at any time, anywhere, but that we manufacture them. Some day, candidates will enter by the regular channel, orderly and respectfully, in all things awaiting *our* will and pleasure."

"Here's hoping he lives to see the day, but I hae me doots.

"There is no short, royal, or observation road in the Royal Arch degree in Hoosier Masonry."

Comp Bodge is always original and outspoken as illustrated by the following under Massachusetts:—

"I believe there is much more dignity and appreciation attached to a Masonic degree when regularly worked than when special effort is made to obtain candidates to form a large class and publicity of the coming event through the newspapers.

"I am of the opinion the craze (and I think I use the word advisedly) for the spectacular will soon die out and those who have been most vociferous for it will wonder why the spell."

New York gives him a full field and he says:—

"I do not like the class distinction. I can see no reason for permitting a maimed soldier or sailor to receive the degrees when a worthy Mason of another calling would be debarred. Is not the man injured while performing his usual duties in providing an honest living for himself and family as much entitled to the consideration of his Brethren and Companions?"

North Carolina gives him this occasion for comment:—

"That shows Comp. Allen and I are one on the round-up idea.

"How do you like this? 'We enjoy the horseplay of the Shrine as much as anybody; but it ought to be kept at a safe distance from the serious work of Masonry.'

"Here is another specimen of clear thinking:

"'We don't think any presiding officer ought to grant any dispensation to annul clear law.'"

He closes Wyoming with the following words:—

"Of the question of the advisability of limiting membership he says:

"'The writer's observation is that the British favour small memberships, giving Lodges more the character of clubs. It is true that large memberships in populous centres give opportunity for many activities closed to small bodies.'

"There are two sides to most questions.

"That he does not like dispensations that permit candidates getting all degrees at one meeting is shown under his review of the District of Columbia:

"'Good for Repath. A little leaven may leaven the whole lump.'"

And his final report is thus expressed:—

"In the preceding pages I have endeavoured to give you a fair statement of what is going in those Jurisdictions which have published and sent us their Proceedings, with comments that may show to you and the readers in the other Jurisdictions where our customs differ.

"That Representatives from Grand Chapters owing no allegiance to the General Grand Chapter were present mingling freely with us and discussing questions as they arose, cemented more closely the bonds of friendship already in evidence. After reviewing what others have said and from my own experience and observation, I think the meeting in our own borders was one that has clarified the situation more than any other in years; and that we may say, all is peace in the Capitar World."

The next Annual Convocation will be held at Portland, May 4th, 1926.

George H. Bangs, Orono, Grand High Priest.

Charles B. Davis, Portland, Grand Secretary.

MANITOBA.

M. Ex. Comp. Fred. L. Newman, Grand Z.

Membership, 1,610.

Net gain, 79.

The frontispiece of the Transactions is a portrait of the newly elected Grand Z. Fraser, of Neepawa.

The second Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Temple, Winnipeg, 4th February, 1925.

M. Ex. Comp. McCauley, of Moose Jaw, Grand Z. of Saskatchewan, and M. Ex. Comp. Johnston, of Fargo, Grand High Priest of North Dakota, were introduced, "God Save the King" and "America" being sung in their honour.

Grand High Priest Johnston spoke as follows:—

"My most earnest desire is that nothing shall ever mar our present harmony or prevent the frequent exchange of visitations between our two Grand Chapters and the Companions thereof. We are of your brethren and kin, and spring from the noble family of Giblymites—so ran the old ritual of the R.A. but it is indeed true. England, Canada and the United States of America are one fundamental racial stock; one in language, literature, laws, customs and ideals, and must ever remain friends. No greater calamity could befall mankind than to have it otherwise.

"Masonically speaking we are one. No legitimate Masonry in America traces its genealogy anywhere except to the Grand Lodge of England. It is from England that we get our H.R.A. as the summit of Ancient Craft Masonry.

"While we in the United States and you in Canada have set up Royal Arch Masonry as a separate establishment, still in our judgment there must be always the closest affiliation with Symbolic Masonry."

From the Grand Z.'s address we make the following extracts of interest and moment:—

"Grand Officers' and your several Committees' reports of most gratifying results have been obtained. From them you will learn in more detail that in spite of the undisguisable fact that we are still suffering from poor business conditions, we have made a most wonderful growth, having issued one hundred certificates since the last report was presented.

"From advance reading of the reports of your Grand Superintendents, I know you will hear that the various Subordinate Chapters have been exceptionally fortunate in their selection of Officers, and all have had the ability, and, what is perhaps of greater importance, the desire and energy to put the work on in such a manner that they have increased the interest of those who have been compelled to sit and listen.

"If the clean ceremony of the Ritual, which is intended to teach and illustrate great truths does not appeal to the officers of a Chapter, then a mistake has been made in their election."

The following is very practical advice which he gives to his Companions and to us:—

"I would urge the prompt opening of Chapters and an expeditious performance of the work, at the same time remembering that our object should be to make Royal Arch Masons and not merely Chapter members. Let it be understood that Royal Arch Masonry is not a stepping-stone or an after-thought that has been tacked on to Ancient Craft Masonry, but that it is a part of that Ancient Body although working under a Grand Body of its own. Make it known to Master Masons that the supreme degree of the Holy Royal Arch is calculated to impress upon their minds a firm belief in the existence and attributes of a Supreme Being and that it directs a due reverence for His Holy and Sacred Name."

Recognition of Manitoba has now been given by fifty-two Grand Jurisdictions.

Of his Grand Scribe E. the Grand Z. says:—

"I feel that this Grand Chapter is to be congratulated in having one as Grand Scribe E. who is so efficient, kind, courteous, thoughtful and painstaking."

During the year one Dispensation and two warrants were issued to new Chapters.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts make interesting reading.

A model form of By-laws was submitted last year and accepted by all the Chapters as the basis of new By-laws.

The Grand Scribe E. gives a full report of the events of the year and cites some pleasant incidents regarding the recognition of the new Grand Chapter of Manitoba, among them especially that of Iowa, the proposition being made by Comp. Bradley in the following graceful words:—

“Masonry symbolically teaches us, that while in the East, South and West are to be found light, warmth, human interests and human affections, yet the North is but a point of darkness, bleak and void. Yet, sir, far to the Northward a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons has but recently been constituted, and now asks for the first time, fraternal recognition and extends fraternal greetings.

“They are of our own people and kindred, sharing with us the heritage of a common speech and a common ancestry. Though nationally separated from us by an invisible line, and dwelling beneath a different flag, yet they are imbued with the same noble purposes and inspired by and dedicated to the same high ideals to promote upon earth the brotherhood of man, and to preserve to every human soul the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

He details his visit to North Dakota which he thus describes:—

“At the Grand Chapter I was allowed to sit and watch their opening ceremonies, was then formally brought in and introduced, was received in a most cordial manner, ‘God Save the King’ being sung in our honour, was requested to take a seat upon the dais which was decorated by the Stars and Stripes upon one side and the Canadian Flag upon the other.”

R. Ex. Comp. R. H. Reid, of Woodstock, represents Manitoba near the Grand Chapter of Canada, and R. Ex. Comp. F. W. Brownell, of Winnipeg, performs the same duty for Canada.

The Committee on Fraternal Dead thus report:—

“Let us then, Companions, endeavour so to live the remaining span of life allotted to us, that we may approach that inevitable dissolution, without a fear, and with a calmness of mind, and with a full trust in the Great Architect of the Universe, so beautifully described by the poet:—

"And so beside the silent sea, I wait the muffled oar,
No harm from Him can come to me, on ocean or on shore.
I know not where His islands lift their fronded palms in air,
I only know I cannot drift, beyond His love and care."

Ex. Comp. George T. Teeder was elected Grand Lecturer, and M. Ex. Comp. William D. Lawrence, Grand Historian.

The Correspondence Report is in the capable hands of our old friend, R. Ex. Comp. John Parton, who in his introduction says:—

"I look forward, however, with pleasurable anticipation to the opportunity of making the acquaintance of still more of our Companions throughout the world through the medium of their printed pages, and endeavouring to pass on to my Companions of this Jurisdiction a brief summary of the doings of each of our sister Grand Bodies.

"In reading and reviewing the Proceedings one cannot help noticing the general feeling of confidence, not only for the future of our beloved Order, but for the world at large outside. As for our Order itself, it is an inspiration to note how easily differences are adjusted, difficulties removed, and barriers burned away; the outcome of the true spirit of brotherhood taught in our work, and practised by our Companions."

He manages to condense a great deal of fruitful matter into his reviews and next year he will have more ample scope.

He comments on some of the contradictions of Royal Arch Masonry which the reviewer has noted in other Jurisdictions in connection for instance with the Grand Chapter of Texas.

Of the Correspondence Report of Alabama, he says:—

"All of which obscured the lofty fraternal sentiments of the Grand High Priest himself."

Again this reviewer is supported in his strenuous opposition to the moon dates, flickering, wavering, uncertain, unworthy of the definite, positive, permanent stability of Royal Arch Masonry:—

"He recommends that Chapters discontinue the 'moon' schedule for their meetings, as they are very confusing. We agree. The 'moon' schedule may be very poetic, but we question whether this makes up for the lack of practicability."

Under British Columbia we read:—

“He reviews M. Ex. Comp. Lawrence’s address at length, and gives treatment to the Correspondence report far more generous, we fear, than it warrants. We hope to improve, and better deserve such kindness. In the meantime,

“King Gentleman, your pains
Are registered where every day I turn
The leaf to read them.”

Canada is generously treated as the Mother Grand Chapter, and from his interesting review we take the following extracts:—

“The successive Grand Z.’s of Canada have long been noted for the presentation of model Annual Addresses, and M. Ex. Comp. Spencer has very worthily maintained the tradition. He touches on every point one could possibly think of.

“R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith gave his report as Grand Scribe E. in his usual terse and business-like fashion.

“The Report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry is from the pen of M. Ex. Comp. Ponton. We guessed—nay, we knew this before we had gone very far into it, and then, like the lady reading a novel, we turned to the last page to see how it ended, to find that our ‘guess’ was right, and it is hardly necessary for us to say that it is a ‘feast of reason and a flow of soul.’ We wish we could give some excerpts from this report. Frankly, the reason we refrain from doing so is that if we started we would want to “quote” the whole nineteen pages. He is also the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and his report, besides being abundant evidence in itself of conscientious and painstaking reading of the various books of Proceedings, is a model of easy style and elegant English.

“Our Mother Grand Chapter continues to flourish, and is in “most excellent” hands (we use the expression both literally and Masonically).”

Under Colorado we note our confrère’s opinion regarding the fate of suspended members:—

“We note, however, rather heavy suspensions for N.P.D., which as we have said in other Jurisdictions, is no real loss, but only the clearing out of ‘dead wood.’

The District of Columbia gives our reviewer this opportunity:—

“Foreign Correspondence is revised by Comp. W. W. Jermane. He gives a short but pithy review of Canada, referring to the new partition of territory by the formation of the Grand Chapters of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and saying

that "Canada is the Mother Grand Chapter of the Dominion, and is to be congratulated on the number of promising daughters it has." He also writes very appreciatively of R. Ex. Comp. E. B. Brown, who has now resigned as Foreign Correspondence Committee, saying "no reports were fairer and few as intelligent as his, or showed as wide a grasp of the entire field of Capitular Masonry."

Florida's Grand High Priest Hubbell has pleased Comp. Parton as much as he has pleased us and we quote:—

"Thus leaving himself opportunity to pass on some real thoughts of his own which are not obscured by a mass of detail.

"It is not difficult to see lawlessness that works, not with fists but with legal fiction, not with T.N.T. but with technicalities, and does it all smoothly and politely, for as one has said, 'We may smile and smile and be a villain.'"

The comments of Canada on Massachusetts' mode of electing officers—in the main favourable—is spoken of and the explanation given by the reviewer of Massachusetts is reprinted:—

"There are about eighty permanent members, and we are able to select from them those who have conspicuously manifested the qualities we consider most desirable in a candidate for Grand High Priest without injuring the feelings of any good Companion by not promoting him. Our Grand High Priests usually serve three terms, and during that time we are able to recognize nine Subordinate Chapters by electing one of their Past High Priests to permanent membership in the Grand Chapter. High Priests of our Chapters, as such, are members of the Grand Body only while serving in that office."

Grand High Priest Stockwell of North Dakota receives this well merited praise:—

"An honour which the Grand Chapter wished to confer on him, and which was no doubt richly deserved, and in which he has shown he was highly efficient and has carried with superb grace and dignity."

Under the General Grand Chapter of the United States we find one more worthy tribute to the late Dr. Kuhn in the words of the reviewer of Manitoba:—

"We will not speak of it as his 'Swan Song,' because the old tradition says that swans sing only before they die. If

we may metaphorically refer to speeches and addresses as 'Songs,' Dr. Kuhn has been 'singing' for many years—songs of inspiration, hope, faith, charity, high endeavour. Therefore this last effort is not a Swan Song; but if it were, it would still be worthy of its place in the Archives of Masonry. As it is, it is a wonderful climax to the expressed thoughts of a man who has given a lifetime to the work of endeavouring to uplift both himself and his fellow creatures with all the faculties God has given him, physical and mental."

Of the Grand Orator's address of Washington he says:—

"We offer our highest respect to the Excellent Companion who has given such evidence of his deep study and profound thought on Masonry, and who has the ability to express himself so clearly and in such beautiful terms. We quote one paragraph:

"'Permit me, while we have the subject before us to stress one more point in this connection. Our Capitular or High Degrees, admittedly, are based on the one foundation—Blue Masonry. I fear, and facts will bear me out, that blue it is. The initiate, too often, is led through the Blue Lodge seeking, hurriedly and often by ardent solicitation, to attain the higher degrees. For the sake of the bodies this side of the Blue Lodge, if not now, ultimately, I wish I would say to every Blue Lodge Mason, "You shall go no further until you are a Master Mason in fact and in deed." I would have him serve at least one year in the Blue Lodge, before he is eligible to have his petition entertained in this body.'"

Commenting upon West Virginia's objection to our excluding the Templar Jewels from the Regalia in the Royal Arch, Comp. Parton speaks as follows:—

"We are afraid Comp. Ford rather misses the point, and in any case, why would any Comp. wish to wear a K.T. jewel in a Chapter or Blue Lodge, unless it were for mere display?"

His last words about Wyoming form an appropriate conclusion to a most interesting volume of Proceedings:—

"This is the Grand Chapter which, last year, especially impressed us with the true fraternity, harmony and progressiveness of the smaller Grand Bodies. We still feel much as we did then. No contentious points have arisen, and everything shows peace and harmony, at the same time there is something 'between the lines' which shows true Companionship in its best sense in the Jurisdiction.

"Correspondence is dealt with by Comp. R. H. Repath. He gives a little over two pages to Canada, very sympathetically written, and also complimentary, *e.g.*, in commenting on the Correspondence Report of Comp. E. B. Brown, "like all matters Masonic emanating from our Canadian Companions, his work is thorough and to the point." This leaves us in difficulty. Are we 'stacking up' to these high qualities? Well, we'll do our best anyhow. Angels can do no more."

Well done daughter, we are proud of you!

M. Ex. Comp. William Fraser, Neepawa, Grand Z.

R. Ex. Comp. Harry F. Moulden, Grand Scribe E.

MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

R.W. Lord Aldenham, Deputy Grand Master.

V.W. Major Lumley-Smith, D.S.O., Grand Secretary.

A Quarterly Communication of—to give it its full title—Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown—was held in Mark Masons' Hall, London, 2nd December, 1924, Lord Aldenham on the Throne.

Among the many outstanding men present we note the names of Granville Grenfell and William John Songhurst, P.G. Overseers; Colonel Hamilton-Wedderburn, P.G. Deacon, and others whom it has been our privilege to meet personally.

The nomination of Grand Master is thus recorded:—

"W. Bro. Lt.-Col. C. E. P. Sankey, D.S.O., Provincial Grand Senior Warden, Kent: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, I have the honour this evening to nominate His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, as Most Worshipful Grand Master for the ensuing year. As Mark Masons I am sure we can congratulate ourselves that he should honour us by becoming the Head of our Order, and it is the wish of all that he may long be spared to rule over us."

The nomination of Grand Treasurer, John Campbell Inglis, was made by V.W. Bro. Dickens, the retiring Grand Treasurer, who said of him:—

“He is a Master of Arts of the University of Oxford, a Member of the Law Society, and the Solicitor’s Benevolent Association. The tongue of good report has already been heard in his favour, and I hope he will have as happy a year of office as I have had.”

R.W. Bro. Colonel Davys, O.B.E., was appointed District Grand Master for the Punjab.

The Educational Committee reported three prizes to boys and one to a girl attending the Masonic Schools, one of the great honours of the year.

Benevolent grants were made to recipients in Bengal, Natal, and Malta and at home.

Quarterly Communication was held 3rd March, 1925, and we note among those present such striking names as R.W. Col. Charles Warren Napier Clavering, R.W. Lt.-Col. the Hon. George Vere Arundell Monckton-Arundell, V.W. Sir Alfred Robbins, W. Major Vesey H. W. Davoren.

Sympathy was expressed for Lord Stradbroke who had just lost his son.

Wor. Brother Colonel Sankey said that it was his privilege to nominate so now it is his honour formally to move that the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn be elected to the office of Grand Master, and he was thereupon proclaimed with all his ancient titles as “Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, whom may the Great Overseer of the Universe long preserve.”

Official changes were made in the District Grand Masters of the Transvaal and of Malaya.

The Grand Registrar moved the following resolution which was carried:—

“Except as herein otherwise provided, the Laws and Regulations contained in the Constitutions of the Antient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, under the United Grand Lodge of England, shall *mutatis mutandis*, be taken as applicable to the Order of Mark Master Masons.”

He said in support of it:—

“I venture to suggest to Grand Lodge that every step which brings us more closely into contact with the Grand Lodge of England, is advantageous to this Order, and I therefore beg to move accordingly.”

A Quarterly Communication was held 2nd June, 1925, and among the names of the officers present we note the well known prefixes of Tre-Pol and Pen, the latter in the well-known name of Penruddock.

Grand Master Doust, of New South Wales, was welcomed.

R.W. Bro. Lt.-Col. John Maurice Wingfield, D.S.O., O.B.E., is the President of the General Board.

1,289 Mark Certificates had been issued during the three months, and 202 Royal Ark Mariner Certificates.

Warrants were granted to several Lodges, among them one known as “Rock of Hope,” Tanganyika.

How far the old battle-line has been merged in the far-flung brotherhood-line!

The Board had the melancholy duty to report the deaths of among others, R.W. Bro. The Earl of Cork and R.W. Bro. Viscount Leverhulme.

An interesting journey is thus recorded:—

“The President of the General Board, R.W. Bro. Lt.-Col. J. M. Wingfield, D.S.O., O.B.E., Past Grand Warden, accompanied by R.W. Bro. P. Colville Smith, C.V.O., Provincial Grand Master, Cornwall, V.W. Bro. J. S. Granville Grenfell, P.G. Overseer, and V.W. Bro. Major T. G. L. Lumley-Smith, D.S.O., Grand Secretary, has paid, since the Board’s last report, a visit to Malta, for the purpose of Installing R.W. Bro. Col. Sir Arthur Henry McMahon, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E., C.S.I., District Grand Master for the Mediterranean.

“The Board is glad to express the opinion that such visits bear most beneficial results by bringing the Brethren of our Districts and Lodges overseas into touch with members of Grand Lodge, and desires to thank the President of the General Board, and all the Brethren who assisted him, for having carried out the duties of this visit with such decided success.”

The Earl of Stradbroke was re-appointed as Pro Grand Master.

A Quarterly Communication was held 1st September, 1925, R.W. the Very Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, on the Throne, and with my old friend R.W. Bro. Arthur Cecil Powell, Prov. Grand Master of Bristol as Deputy Grand Master.

Sir Colville Smith was also present as Grand Master of Cornwall and representatives from Bombay, Gibraltar and the Argentine.

In addition to the large number of Officers named as present the record proceeds:—

"The Grand Stewards of the year, many past Grand Stewards, with a large number of Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, and the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Overseers, and Members of many private Lodges.

"The Grand Lodge was opened in form."

823 Mark Certificates and 223 Royal Ark Mariner Certificates were issued.

Viscount Valencia was appointed Provincial Grand Master for Berks and Oxon, and the Earl of Derby for Lancashire.

Foreign relations and Quebec are thus referred to:—

"The Board reports with satisfaction that the Grand Chapter of Quebec desires to resume fraternal relations which were suspended in the year 1883.

"The Board, reciprocating the desire for amity between the Governing Bodies of the Degree of Mark Master Masons recommends Grand Lodge to accede to the request of the Grand Chapter of Quebec."

Under Benevolence the splendid sum of £9,413 Sterling was announced as having been paid and promised.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Festival will be held 24th June, 1926, for which Stewards will be appointed on application.

Supplementary to the reference already given with regard to Quebec we find the following:—

"Fraternal relations were renewed with the Grand Chapter of Canada in Ontario in December, 1923.

"Fraternal relations have already been renewed between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Supreme Grand Chapter of England on similar lines to the motion now before Mark

Grand Lodge, and I now beg to move that "Fraternal relations be resumed with the Grand Chapter of Quebec on the understanding that the latter will recognize the right of the St. Paul's Mark Lodge, No. 131, Montreal, to continue under the obedience of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, who on their part, give an assurance that no new warrant shall be granted for a Mark Lodge to work within the Province of Quebec under the English Constitution."

Grand Lodge was closed in form, the Brethren joining in singing the National Anthem.

MARYLAND.

Charles H. Carroll, M.E. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 9,494.
Net increase, 400.

The bright and shining face of M. Ex. Comp. Morningstar, the new Grand High Priest, precedes the volume.

The One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation was held in Baltimore, December 9th, 1924.

Ten Past Grand High Priests were loyally present.

Canada's representative was not among those who answered the Roll Call at the altar.

The address of M. Ex. Comp. Carroll is an interesting one; the following sentences are fair examples of his good work:—

"Your presence bespeaks your loyalty, and I assure you a most hearty and cordial welcome. To you, my Companions, who are set apart to the Order of Priesthood this day, like Aaron's Priesthood, it is one of the milestones on the road of sacred history, and not to be lightly passed over. The Holy Garments which you are to wear, described and prescribed in the Holy Scriptures, signify three things: 'Holiness, Beauty and Glory.' The inscription on the Crown unmistakably tells of 'Holiness to the Lord;' the colours—Blue, Purple and Scarlet—the embroidery of the Coat and the workmanship of the Breastplate, express 'Beauty;' and the pure gold and radiant gems, 'Glory.'

"The Ephod was originally the distinctive garment or vestment of the High Priest, and its main prominence was due to its connection with the shoulder pieces; their onyx stones and the Breastplate with its twelve gems. On the two

onyx stones, set in gold and attached to the shoulder pieces of the Ephod, the names of the tribes were engraven, according to their birth, Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan and Naphtali on the one, and Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulon, Joseph and Benjamin, on the other; and Aaron was to bear their names before the Lord upon his shoulders for a memorial. In a sense, therefore, when Aaron went into the Holiest of All, the burden of a whole nation rested upon him. My Companions, you too, are to bear a burden, the responsibility of the government of your Chapter—may it be light and pleasant.”

He says that “sorrow rests upon us” owing to the deaths of Companions Cochrane, Billmyer and Grand Chaplain Wroth, who had been active and much loved members.

During the year M. Ex. Comp. George L. Daneker had been appointed Grand Representative of Canada near Maryland.

The Grand High Priest refused a Dispensation to a Chapter to join with another in conferring Capitular Degrees at another place, giving this reason:—

“Refused for the reason ‘that a Chapter is not a movable body, and holds its Charter *“to hold and do work”* at a stated place.’ ”

He ruled that it would not be proper for a Past High Priest to open and preside in the absence of High Priest, King and Scribe. He also ruled that no Chapter has the right to receive an application of a Minister without paying any fee.

With regard to Chapters of Instruction he says:—

“Officers of the Chapters are expected to attend and perfect themselves not only in the Ritual, but in the floor work as well. All Royal Arch Masons are cordially invited and welcomed, especially those of a studious disposition in connection with Masonic knowledge, as they will profit by the opportunity afforded of acquiring a more intimate conception of the lessons there taught.”

He reports not merely Masonic work done but also the social functions at the General Grand Chapter as follows:—

"Auto rides, clam bakes, excursions on Portland Bay, sight-seeing trips around Portland, Poland Springs, Cape Elizabeth, and Old Orchard Beach, concluding with a banquet on the last evening of our stay."

With regard to the Order of De Molay he favours it and thus expresses himself:—

"From a personal knowledge I can assure you that the Order of De Molay is doing a wonderful work among the boys, by teaching them at the most critical stage of their life, that nobility of character, reverence for sacred things, fidelity, filial and fraternal love, cleanness in body and mind, and patriotism are the best preparation for the citizenship that awaits them.

"It has been my pleasure to be present at nearly all their meetings, and I can safely say that the dignity with which they confer the degrees could well be emulated by some of our Chapters in conferring the impressive degree of the Royal Arch."

From the In Memoriam contributions we take the following immortal verses:—

"Now the labourer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now our brother sleeping."

"His life was gentle, and the elements
So mix'd in him, that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world, 'This was a MAN!'"

The statistics of all the constituent Chapters with names of members are given.

The Memorial pages are introduced by the following inscription:—

"The following Most Excellent Companions have descended the Arch and been exalted by the Supreme Grand High Priest."

The names of the Grand Chapter Officers from organization in 1797 are given with of course the usual breaks in the records which occur in all Jurisdictions. The original Grand Chapter was resuscitated as the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia in 1807 and again in 1814, and in 1824 the District of Columbia Grand Chapter with-

drew. They were again received in 1841 and finally withdrew in 1867.

R. Ex. Comp. R. G. W. Connolly, of St. Catharines, represents Maryland near Canada.

The Annual Convocation of High Priests celebrated their 100 years fittingly as follows:—

“This being the One Hundredth Annual Convocation of the Council, the occasion was given recognition by a tasty luncheon ordered by the M.E. President, and served in the Banquet Hall at the noon hour. One hundred and twenty-four of the Companions participated in the luncheon and all declared the occasion worthily remembered.

The Correspondence Report is by Comp. Rev. Henry Branch, D.D., who gives an excellent review.

Under Alabama he says:—

“A special appeal is made for the Masonic Home. ‘One of the grandest monuments ever erected to Humanity is the Masonic Home at Montgomery,’ says the Grand High Priest.”

California produces these comments and we may say to our confrère there are others, but perhaps it is an acquired taste:—

“I enjoy the Report on Correspondence, but find it difficult to digest it, already pre-digested.”

“Says our patriotic Companion: ‘I have, at every possible opportunity, urged that our loyal Companions insist upon the proper development of a healthy and stalwart patriotism in all our educational institutions, and that they should also insist that our Country be put and kept in a proper state of preparedness.’ The Grand Lecturer concurs in this sentiment.”

Under the District of Columbia he says:—

“The rise and fall of the Chapter in Mexico, chartered by the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, is noted as the passing of a dream.

“Your Grand High Priest did not feel it his duty to flatter each Chapter he visited, regardless of conditions. In several instances he was compelled to speak with unflattering frankness to the officers of Chapters which are not making progress. He has done this that the Constituent Chapters may get the full benefit of these visitations.”

Florida furnishes the following:—

“The circular meets with this rebuff: ‘On general principles I am not favorably disposed to the plan of permitting

the public and promiscuous use of either the names of the Grand Officers or the names and addresses of the members of Constituent Chapters for solicitation purposes."

Illinois also gives him something which he cannot easily digest, nor can we, in the following "super-sentences" of their Grand Chaplain, evidently a man of extremes, and without stable equilibrium:—

"The Grand Chaplain closed his address with the suggestion of the following oath which he proposed for adoption:

"I promise on the honour of a Mason and as an American citizen and Mason, that I will vote at every election, no matter what the election may be, if I am physically capable of doing that—so help me God."

"And, as a Mason and American, I promise here, on bended knee, and at this Altar, and in the sacred precincts of Masonry, that to the best of my ability and according to my best judgment, I will obey every law, whether it is in the Constitution or on the statute books of my State, Nation or City, under penalty—so help me God."

"And as an American Citizen, I would add: Here in the sacred Temple of Masonry, on bended knee, I promise, under penalty to obey the 18th Amendment and the Volstead Law, and neither be a bootlegger nor encourage one—so help me God."

"There is an old proverb, which freely translated from the Latin reads somewhat like this: 'Whom the Gods wish to destroy they first make mad!' "

Massachusetts gives opportunity for the following quotation:—

"The Most Worthy Grand Master presented a most interesting piece of Masonic history. I quote a sentence: 'I think, therefore, that we may piece together these bits of evidence and regard it as settled that there was a beginning of Scottish Rite work in Massachusetts under the Hayes Commission in Vineyard Haven in 1791; that they continued to work as a Scottish Rite body until 1797, and then were given a Charter as a Blue Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and so became merged in the body of our York Rite Blue Lodge Masonry.'

"In one of his addresses, Companion Kuhn says: 'Freemasonry, especially Capitular Freemasonry, touches hands and links itself with all the moral forces, touches the intellectual processes and scientific studies that have ever come to humanity. Look at all the degrees and see if they do not touch upon every thing of moral and intellectual power.' "

The international note of linked peace factors, is thus cited from Missouri:—

"I believe firmly that a union of spirit and of feeling between the English-speaking nations of the world, covering all the continents, by such union of thought and feeling and a desire to act together, the peace of the world will be made stronger and will become preserved for the time every one of us would pray for it to be preserved. . . . It is because we are rooted, we are founded and building on that Eternal Rock that Freemasonry has gone on growing and strengthening with the years."

Our Correspondence Reports are thus eulogized under New Jersey:—

"I sympathize heartily with the foreword of the Report of Correspondence: 'We can think of no more delightful work than that of browsing through the records of Masonic activities and commentatorially presenting them to the Fraternity.' He emphasizes the claim of education as a paramount obligation. He says: 'The idea may be Utopian, but we have visualized a plan by which each Chapter, through individual effort, would foster the higher education of at least one boy or girl. What more glorious work could be engaged in?'"

We cannot resist quoting from New Zealand—our sister Dominion, the following:—

"Companion Alfred A. A. Murray suggests a solution, when he says: 'With regard to the point you make (addressing New Zealand), about the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland reserving the right to charter a Chapter if it desires in connection with a Scottish Lodge, this has been agreed to by all other Jurisdictions except yourselves, and I don't think, if you will allow me to express my personal views, that you need trouble about it, because it is not likely to occur; and more than that, we are quite alive to the fact that the first generation of Scotsmen who go out are intensely loyal to their country. The second generation are loyal to their parentage, but as a rule the third generation who are born in your place consider their own organizations, and run them for themselves, and it is extremely foolish to press the matter in the meantime, as it is bound to right itself in the course of time. Personally, I give three generations for the course of the righting of the matter.' A Daniel come to judgment!"

Under Ohio our Reviewer commends the appropriation of \$10,000 for the Masonic Home by Grand Chapter.

Under Tennessee this verse strikes him and us:—

“Take a strong new grip and grasp of your load,
And then—go on! Go on!
For we follow a Voice down the long, long road,
That travels hither and yon,
And the voice is the voice of the hastening years—
Go on! Go on!

Vermont calls attention to the greatest of all Masonic charities:—

“I would call your attention to a still greater need in these uncertain times, in which every one may share, and so prepare for his declining years, should misfortune overtake his declining years, and one in which he may accept the hospitality, not as a gift, but as his due, and again in which if he need not participate, he has through many years contributed his mite towards his brother’s welfare—that of a Masonic Home.”

Victoria maintains a high ideal:—

“Self-knowledge, self-reverence, self-control,
These three alone lead life to sovereign power.”

Virginia always fertile in ideas, gives us the following:—

“The Grand Lecturer pleads for beautiful Temples and attractive Lodge Rooms. ‘Our buildings and Lodge Rooms should give some regard to beauty, not only from the standpoint of making it a worthy Temple to Whom it is dedicated, but also from that of the value of esthetic surroundings, as an aid to put the members and candidates into a responsive frame of mind to make the most of the sublime truths revealed in the conferring of degrees.’

“The Masonic Home is specially commended to the District Deputy Grand High Priests. ‘I have endeavoured to impress on them the merits of the Masonic Home and the importance of bringing to the attention of each Chapter this great work for their consideration and support.’

He does not approve of miscellaneous Dispensations granted in Wyoming to waive time limits, and comments thus on their Grand High Priest’s policy, “that is what I call travesty.”

Many Jurisdictions are reviewed but not Canada. Surely we are not too cold or chilly to be included in the itinerary of R. Ex. Comp. Branch.

Charles P. Morningstar, Baltimore, Grand High Priest.

Gustav A. Eitel, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

Warren S. Seipp, Baltimore, Grand Lecturer.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Curtis Chipman, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 40,724.
Net gain, 1,533.

No more appropriate and impressive frontispiece to this wonderful volume of Proceedings could be devised that the engraving of the features as well known in Canada as in the United States, of M. Ex. Comp. Curtis Chipman, an ideal friend, Brother and Companion.

The regular Quarterly Convocation was held in Boston, March 11, 1924.

Canada's Grand Representative was present.

A great reception was given to Ex. Comp. Sir Alfred Robbins was thus introduced by M. Ex. Comp. Prince, both of them outstanding men and Masons:—

"He comes from a land that many of us are proud to remember as that of our ancestors and to claim as an heritage; a land that all of us acknowledge as the home of our Masonic mother.

"He brings us a message pregnant with the ancient traditions of the Craft, traditions which we in Massachusetts endeavour to honour and preserve, as well as to follow in the footsteps of our Mother in Masonry."

The Grand High Priest welcomed him as a journalist and scholar with the graces of expression as his constant companions. Grace of expression is well illustrated in Comp. Chipman himself, who added:—

"May your pleasure in being with us be as great as our pride in having you here."

In welcoming the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Ferrell, he used these sunny words:—

"You are most welcome, and our day is brightened by reason of your coming. We thank you for the distinction you have conferred upon our meeting."

And the Grand Master in his reply said:—

"The words of greeting that you always tender the Grand Masters when they come to visit, are a delight to them, for they signify that association of heart, that identity of inte-

rest wherein we find a common pleasure, the urge of a common service, and I thank you, sir, for this very kind and cordial greeting."

And later added further thoughtful remarks, a sentence of which we quote:—

"Sometimes I am afraid that the various bodies which comprise the great fraternity of Masonry are very conscious of their individual identity, and that too much of their time is put into their particular group, and too much of their interest is invested within a comparatively limited scope."

In introducing Sir Alfred Robbins, he speaks of enthusiasm as his chief characteristic as follows:—

"It is a radiant and glowing light in the firmament of life, and enthusiasm is the one thing necessary that all good deeds may prosper and all good intentions may succeed.

"There is something vague about the world as a thing, but it is the people in it that Sir Alfred has come to serve."

Sir Alfred Robbins in his reply uttered Anglo-Saxon truths which merit a reproduction of his whole address. Space will only permit:—

"Despite the cold outside, the warmth I have had within has touched me most deeply, because with that welcome given to me by my Brethren in Massachusetts is also the welcome to my wife, my constant companion, my best helper in Masonry as in daily life.

"I believe that the aim of all Masons, whether in Craft—or as it is termed here Blue or Symbolic—Masonry or Royal Arch Masonry—which in my country are more closely united as an organization than in yours—the aim in both these branches of Masonry should be, while insisting on every essential being absolutely adhered to, not always to be emphasized over-much the non-essentials when they carry cause of difference among brethren. We have too great a world to face, we have too mighty a task before us, to waste our energy in anything but that which is essential to the well-being of our organization, being filled with the belief that, in the success of our organization, truly lies very much of the future peace, happiness, and well-being of the world.

"Of our thirty-nine hundred Lodges actually working under the Grand Lodge of England, over nine hundred are in the area of London, within ten miles of Freemasons' Hall, that being our central point. We have more than two thousand three hundred Lodges in the country districts—the provinces—of England; and we have nearly seven hundred Lodges overseas in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and parts of America, all owing allegiance to the

Grand Master sitting in London. Therefore, Companions, our duty is not a limited and insular duty. Our duty is to Masons who are scattered in hundreds of thousands over the face of the earth and water; and up to now the Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Chapter of England have been content, very much content, to limit their actual work to the Lodges and Chapters under their immediate Jurisdiction. But there is a greater world-consciousness to-day than has ever been, and it is growing in England as rapidly as elsewhere. No longer can our vision be bounded by what is immediately before our eyes as being under our own Jurisdiction. We have to look to other Jurisdictions to see what they are doing, and how their doings react upon us, for we all react one upon the other, and nothing any Grand Jurisdiction does is unnoticeable in some other part of the world. I do say that Masonry, as we know it, as we have taught it, as we attempt to practise it, should stand fast, in this day of sway and of chance, by its ancient principles, and ancient purposes. Masonry must at all times do its best to uphold without qualifications, without modification, without any attempt at "watering down," the recognition of the Supreme Being who made us what we are, who will lead us to what we may become, who has given us various ways, in different fashions, by different methods, the message that uplifts our hearts. Therefore, I came to Massachusetts to be heartened, not to be enlightened. I had the enlightenment before I came; I am having the heartening every hour I am here.

"Beyond this my journey across the Atlantic has been solely for the purpose of strengthening the bonds of friendship which have always existed between the Masons of the two greatest countries in the world.

"One assists in work of this kind because he believes—because, indeed, he knows—that in Masonry there is that which, if practised by every one of us in our lives, in our homes, in our relations with our fellow men, will increasingly make for the progress, for the peace, and for the consequent prosperity of the world. I come to you from a country which never more than to-day was passionately devoted to peace. Ours is a doctrine which, when well and truly carried out, uplifts a man. A man who is uplifted helps to uplift other men; and, with the general uplift the world moves on.

"I am tired, Companions, of the frequent sneer which tells us that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. I prefer to reflect that the path to heaven is lit with high endeavour."

A Quarterly Convocation was held September 30, 1924.

Canada was not represented.

The new General Grand High Priest, M. Ex. Comp. John Albert Blake, of Massachusetts, was officially received and appreciation of the distinguished honour which had been conferred on him was expressed and a basket of choice flowers presented.

At each Quarterly Convocation the ever attentive embodiment of fidelity, R. Ex. Comp. F. L. Mitchell, Grand Representative of Massachusetts near New York, sent greetings and report.

A Special Convocation of Grand Chapter was held October 29, 1924, to constitute Leominster Chapter.

This reviewer thinks that Grand High Priests are better and happier when away from their formal duties and addresses. M. Ex. Comp. Chipman thus in part spoke:—

“You now stand at the threshold of opportunity. A new Chapter is poor in that it inherits no traditions, but it becomes rich when it discovers its opportunities of creating them. The connection of the past with the present and the present with the future form some of the noblest motives of human exertion. It would be a poor mind indeed that did not respond to such an inspiration, and determine that the traditions you are to make for the future shall be lofty in conception, yet built upon that Rock which is the foundation that never fails. I believe this responsibility will be not lightly regarded.”

The Annual Convocation was held December 9, 1924, in Ionic Hall, Boston.

Canada was not represented.

All the Capitular degrees were exemplified under the direction of Grand Lecturer Sewall.

Seven Past Grand High Priests answered the roll call.

Among the distinguished guests cordially welcomed and escorted to the Grand East were Representatives of Quebec, Delaware, New Jersey, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania and General Grand Chapter.

It is sufficient eulogy to say that the address of the Grand High Priest is worthy of the man. From it we take some sentences of interest and thought:—

“If the need which thoughtful leaders so clearly recognize is to be met, and the hopes which they voice are to be realized, the responsibility rests squarely on every loyal Mason to scan his own record and to contribute his individual share to maintain the principles of our Order and strengthen the foundations on which it rests.”

A list of his fraternal visitations during the year covers many pages. He thus describes his visit to us in Canada:—

“I attended the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada at Toronto, being the guest of M. Ex. Comp. Richard H. Spencer, Grand First Principal. Our delightful experience of last year led us to anticipate this visit with great pleasure, and it may be truly said that we were by no means disappointed. Our Canadian Companions were most assiduous in their attentions and the memories of this visit will ever be of the happiest nature.”

And thus in Quebec:—

“The Representatives from Massachusetts were welcomed on their arrival at the station by the Grand Z., in person, attended by several distinguished Canadian Companions, and from that moment until our departure we were recipients of every courtesy and consideration possible to imagine.”

And generally of his welcome and of his pillars and columns of support he says:—

“The memories that linger with me of the countless acts of thoughtfulness and consideration for my happiness and comfort, are the priceless treasures of my mind. I stand very grateful, yet very humble, before the affectionate regard shown me these past three years. I had not thought that men's hearts could be so tender, nor their lips so generous, as has been the case with my Companions towards me. May I thus thank each one of them with this grateful word, and he who has cheered and encouraged me with his friendliness will, by the beating of his heart, know that this message is for him. I should be unjust did I not make mention of those two loyal friends who have so efficiently and faithfully rendered their willing and friendly service to me as Grand Captains of the Host, largely through whose care and solicitude for my health, I have been enabled to keep every official and social engagement for my entire three years of service with only one exception, and that for a reason wholly beyond my control.”

He has no fear of the future:—

“I am strong in the belief that the Royal Arch Masons of to-day will prove themselves worthy of the trust and equal to the task imposed upon them of carrying forward the torch of light kindled by the Master whose followers we are.”

With regard to the General Grand Chapter he says:—

“The opportunity of contact with our sister Grand Jurisdictions was one of the most valuable and treasured features of the Convocation. General Grand Chapter will continue a potent medium in the fostering of cordial and friendly co-operation in all that makes for the betterment of our institution.”

After three successive years in office he was succeeded by M. Ex. Grand High Priest Pollard with R. Ex. Comp. Winthrop J. Cushing as Deputy.

A list of the Past Grand High Priests from 1801 is given, and we note that the name of Pollard twice occurs as ruler of the Royal Craft, for in 1888 to 1890 Arthur G. Pollard was Grand High Priest.

Comp. Lorenzo L. Green represents Canada and Massachusetts was in 1924 represented by the late M. Ex. Comp. John E. Harding.

Brief rules for Masonic dates are thus given:—

SCOTTISH RITE—

Add 3760 to the common era. Thus: 1925 and 3760 = 5685. After September add another year.

ROYAL ARCH—

Add 530 years to the vulgar era. Thus: 1925 and 530 = 2455.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR—

From the Christian era take 1118. Thus: 1118 from 1925 = 807.

ORDER OF THE HIGH PRIESTHOOD—

To the Christian era add 1913, the year of blessing. Thus: 1925 and 1913 = 3838.

The Convention of High Priests met in Annual Assembly and 88 were anointed.

The Capitular Review is as usual by the Grand Secretary, M. Ex. Comp. Frederick T. Comee, P.G. H.P., whose work is that of an experienced Craftsman.

Under Alabama he says:—

“In Massachusetts, after a Brother has received the Mark degree, a simple objection would not prevent advancement. We feel that as a Mark Master Mason he is beyond the limit of an objection, and entitled to a trial before being denied further Capitular advancement.”

Canada is generously reviewed. Of the Grand Z. he says:—

“The address of the Grand Z. contains much that I would like to include in this report; I wish every Companion in this Jurisdiction could read it. Here is a brief quotation from it, and there is much more just as good:—

“‘Let us ever be on the alert to make the activities of our Royal Craft the stream that warms and tempers the current of modern civilization.’”

Of other Proceedings he adds:—

“Companion Ponton, who is well remembered by many of us, gave an excellent report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry, which is well worth reading. Excerpts will not do it justice; come to our Library and read it.

“Comp. Ponton also presents the Report on Fraternal Correspondence, succeeding R. Ex. Comp. Edward B. Brown, who for several years has ably performed that service for his Grand Chapter. I give the Companion a cordial personal greeting, and hope he will find the duties of a Correspondent so pleasant that I may have the pleasure of reading many more of his reports.

“I find much in his excellent reviews I would like to mention, but time and space must be considered.”

The District of Columbia furnishes him with this material:—

“In this Jurisdiction, which has an area of seventy square miles, the Grand Officers visit every Chapter, If the examination of the books for the year by the Grand Secretary and Treasurer is to mean anything, the Grand High Priest must speak plainly to Chapters which show signs of weakness. Criticism is not a pleasant task, but your Grand High Priest felt that it was one of the obligations of his office.

“Massachusetts has found the only absolutely safe method for protecting a candidate from possible ridicule, embarrassment or humiliation, is to forbid any variation from or addition to the language of the adopted ritual.”

From Illinois he quotes and comments thus:—

“We cannot hang back and shut our eyes to the abuses that are on every hand. We have got to get over this sort

of thing. You are all red-blooded men, you have intelligence, and there are millions of us in America.

"I would not allow political discussion within a Masonic Body, but believe the welfare and very existence of our Government demands organized Masonic support."

Canada is not alone in the astounding total of arrears of dues, and thus Comp. Comee speaks under Michigan:—

"The Grand Secretary informs us there are 6,082 members of Chapters in arrears for dues more than one year, with a total indebtedness of \$59,564.14. Without knowing the circumstances, my first thought was that there should be a liberal number of suspensions or remission of dues."

As to missing charters and emergencies the reviewer under New York makes a practical suggestion:—

"I consider a certified photographic copy of a Charter, to hang in a hall and be used for ordinary working purposes, and the real Charter exposed only on special occasions, a good possession. The original, which grows more valuable as the years go by, can be kept where it is perfectly safe from loss by fire or any other cause."

Under South Carolina the reviewer, the veteran M. Ex. Comp. James L. Michie, reports reading and consideration of the Transactions of sixty Grand Chapters, and Comp. Comee thus comments:—

"I doubt any other Correspondent giving so complete a list, and unless one is familiar with the work, he can have no idea of the time and effort our good Companion Michie devoted to it."

Virginia always gives material for comment and in that review he says:—

"He wisely favours attractive halls as an inspiration to degree work and says: 'No dingy or unattractive room creates a good impression.'"

"Mentioning a statement in the Correspondence Report that transacting business in a Committee of the Whole was simply following an old custom, he says: 'Could there be a better reason in the most ancient of human organizations?' There are very many other old Masonic customs, which the Companions will readily recall, that became obsolete long, long ago. Would he now recommend their revival simply because of their antiquity?"

The conclusion is as usual interesting and he quotes thus from Comp. George Guthrie, of North Dakota, regarding the abolition of mechanical line promotion:—

“Do not understand me that I would destroy the satisfaction of the Grand High Priest in making some appointments which serve to gratify his personal pleasure in bestowing favours, but such appointments should not be considered future rulers of the Grand Body. The honor of becoming the Chief of the Order should depend upon merit and not result from a favor which was bestowed years ago and carried along by sufferance to the end. Let us advocate a system which will do more than merely perpetuate the personal preference of one who was in power a score of years ago.”

Massachusetts heartily approved, and Comp. Comee adds:—

“Another good feature of our Regulations, at least we strongly so consider it, is that High Priests of our constituent Chapters are members of our Grand Chapter *only* during their term of service at the head of their Chapters.

“From an experience of forty years in our Grand Chapter, I earnestly advise every new Grand Chapter to adopt our election system and the foregoing regulation while they are able to do so, for when a Grand Body has grown to have a large number of Chapters and its members are habitually accustomed to other methods, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to induce them to vote for a radical change which may affect themselves or many of their friends.”

M. Ex. Comp. Harry G. Pollard, Lowell, Grand High Priest.

M. Ex. Comp. Frederick T. Comee, Boston, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

M. Ex. Comp. William E. Goff, Grand High Priest.
Membership, 45,810.

Net gain, 1,256.

In the table of Chronology which prefaces the Proceedings the following may be of interest to our readers:—

“Lodges hold Communications, Chapters hold Convocations, Royal and Select Masters hold Assemblies, Knights Templar hold Conclaves, the Order of High Priesthood hold

Convocations, the Scottish Rite hold Rendezvous, the Shrine hold Sessions. Each thirty years from the Hejira or July 15, A.D. 622, constitute a cycle. Nineteen of these years contain 355 days and eleven 356."

To be a chronological Shriner one must therefore be also an arithmetician.

Another very interesting page is that devoted to the names and addresses and subscription rates of approved Masonic publications throughout the United States, including our old friends "The Builder," "The Master Mason," and all the leading Journals.

The Seventy-seventh Annual Convocation was held at Detroit, May 20th-21st, 1925.

From the introduction of and address of welcome to the visitors from Canada we take the following record:—

"I take great pleasure, Most Excellent Sir, in introducing to you the representative of this great country to the north, the borderland of which extends for three thousand miles, and upon which no hostile gun has been fired for over a century of years. Excellent Sir, I cannot give you the titles, but the ranking officer is Most Excellent Companion Smith; and the man who is known best to all of us is Companion "Dick" Spencer, from the Dominion of Canada.

"Right Excellent Companion Edwin Smith, Grand Third Principal, and Immediate Past Grand First Principal Richard H. Spencer, it is indeed a pleasure for the Grand Chapter of Michigan to welcome you into our midst, on this our Seventy-seventh Annual Convocation. I trust that your stay with us will be a pleasant one, and that you may enjoy the comradeship of the Michigan Companions to its fullest extent. We know you, Dick, and we know you, Edwin. We have known you for some years. Perhaps, to the Grand Chapter of Michigan, Edwin Smith is unknown to most of you. But, as for myself, and a few of the other Grand Chapter Officers of this Grand Jurisdiction, we know you well, because we have met you in annual convocation in the pleasant city of Toronto. And now, my dear distinguished Companions, Edwin and Dick, you will continue under the escort of Past Grand High Priest Kingsley to the East."

In the welcome to Ohio we find these words from the Grand High Priest and in the welcome to Indiana and Pennsylvania, New York and the Grand Master the following:—

"It is our good fortune to have with us to-day several of the other distinguished Companions of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, who will be introduced later on. But you, Warren, it is indeed a pleasure, a special pleasure to have with us, and I would ask that you continue under the escort of Past Grand High Priest Andrus to the East.

"On behalf of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, our Past Grand High Priest, Robert H. Hunt, introduces our distinguished guest as a stranger. Now he is no stranger to me. Fred has been one of my pals for a good many years; and I noticed, when he came in the door that he was all smiles, and bubbling over with enthusiasm.

"Now, my dear Fred, you will continue under the escort of Grand High Priest, Robert Hunt, to the East.

"It is a personal pleasure for me, Most Excellent Companion George, and Most Excellent Companion Tom, to welcome you at this time as special representative of our 46,000 Royal Arch Masons of Michigan.

"Now, my dear Companion George, the Grand Chapter of Michigan is indeed indebted to you for the wonderful way in which you are representing Michigan in the Grand Jurisdiction of New York. This is no laughing event, to be received in this Grand Jurisdiction.

"My beloved dear Most Worshipful Grand Master Ben, and Deputy Grand Master Arthur, and Past Grand Masters Dillon and McKenzie, it is indeed a pleasure to welcome you.

"Most Excellent Companion John, and to the other members on your staff, Washington, Charlie, George and John, it is indeed a pleasure for us to welcome you at this our Seventy-seventh annual convocation. We know you have made a good start in getting acquainted with our Michiganders, and I trust that your stay with us will be pleasant. You will, therefore, continue under the escort of Past Grand High Priest 'Billy' Watts to the East, where you will be seated among the distinguished Companions."

We reprint these sentences from these welcomes to illustrate the "personal touch" and characteristics of the genial Grand High Priest Goff, whose smile covers everything with a mantle of caress so that even the multiplication of christian names, which does not appeal to us in cold type, but which certainly would appeal to Rotarians and Kiwanians, is nevertheless one of those striking incidences of personality which few Grand High Priests with dignity could indulge.

M. Ex. Comp. Goff is on a pedestal of popularity all his own.

From the address of welcome by Comp. Bowles, of Detroit, we take the following:—

“We have in this time almost completed a building which will stand as the largest Masonic Temple in the world, an edifice which will stand as a proud testimonial to the industry of Detroit Masonry.

“And, this delegation from the State of New York, we are glad to see them here with us to-day. We to-day in Michigan stand fifth in point of numbers among all of the Chapters of the United States.”

Fourteen Past Grand High Priests reported for active duty. No less than 26 distinguished visitors were received and each one's personal address is given.

From the Grand High Priest's address we take the following worthy sentences:—

“A life of service needs no eulogy, a lover of justice and of mankind needs no praise; his silent lips are more eloquent than words—his deeds more permanent than praise.”

“They are worthy of remembrance
For but seldom are they found.
So I pay this humble tribute
Though it needs a worthy pen,—
To a Prince of nature's molding,
One who loved his fellowmen.”

He gives a full list of his visitations which were many, showing the assiduity of his work throughout the year and he thus reports his visit to Canada:—

“On February 25, and 26, I visited the Grand Chapter of Canada at their Sixty-seventh Annual Convocation, held in the city of Windsor, where I was received and accorded every courtesy possible. On the first night, Detroit Chapter of De Molay under the direction of Past Grand High Priest Frank P. Wilcox, conferred the De Molay degrees for the edification of the Companions of Canada, who were very much impressed with the fine work done by our De Molay boys.”

He fills a full page with a detailed list of paraphernalia which he recommends that every new Chapter under Dispensation be required to procure.

On De Molay he reports with regard to the Camp as follows:—

“A year ago this Grand Chapter accepted the proposition of Companion John Rademaker of Manistee, wherein he provided us with a tract of land to be used for De Molay Camp purposes and Masons; situated on beautiful Bear Lake.

“The Grand Chapter voted the sum of Two Thousand Dollars for starting this project.

“The greatest joy of living, is being able to serve; and if by lending our moral support, we can help mould the characters of our De Molay boys into becoming better citizens of this great commonwealth, then we shall have accomplished something worth while, and I believe that the Companions of this Grand Jurisdiction should lend their moral and financial support on behalf of this great movement for the betterment of our boys.

“The Grand Chapter voted Two Thousand Dollars for De Molay purposes last year, but the total expenses have been \$2,329.67, and I would therefore make the following recommendations:

“First: That the Grand Chapter ratify the additional expenditure of \$329.67 for the camp last year.

“Second: That the Grand Chapter appropriate Two Thousand Dollars for the De Molay Camp for the year 1925.”

And after announcing that he had prepared a ceremony for the proper reception of the National Flag in the Chapter-rooms he thus concludes:—

“To you, Excellent Companions who are exquisite architects, always building up the castle of happiness out of the losses and crosses that fate may throw about you:—who can always see the silver lining to every cloud, I trust that you have learned to its fullest the true meaning of companionship as I have learned it during the years it has been my privilege to serve you.”

“A new Organization is thus reported:—

“An organization known as the ‘Masonic Grand Council of Michigan,’ whose purpose and function is to encourage the co-ordination of interests in all of the Masonic Bodies of the State and to diffuse light and information, and in every way possible, to do our full duty to Masons.”

Grand High Priest Darrow, of Pennsylvania, referred to the charming personality of his host and said that the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania is an absolute autocrat. He describes in a story the rough and rugged road, most graphically introducing a bride at a recent wedding in Washington as follows:—

“The bridge was as sweet as any bride that ever lived; and, as she walked down the aisle, on the arm of her father, her lips slightly tilted at the corners in a sweet smile, she was the picture of modest beauty. Her thin wedding gown and gossamer veil floated around her beautiful head like a halo, and she was as near an angel as girls ever get to be in this world. At the altar, as she passed from the arm of her father, the man she had always loved, to the arm of the man to whom she was to devote the rest of her life, her dainty slipper touched a potted lily standing on the floor and overturned it. And, smiling again, she said to the dear old pastor. ‘That is a hell of a place to put a lily.’ And so I say, the ‘Rough and Rugged Road’ always seemed to me just as much out of place as that remark by that sweet young bride.”

With regard to the signing of the Declaration of Independence and as to so many of its subscribers being Masons, he says:—

“The question arose as to whether that first assembly should be opened by prayer. Objection was made from several sources. I think it was Mr. Day, of New York, who arose and objected because there were there present so many different denominations that it would be difficult for them to determine which one should offer the prayer. Finally, Samuel Adams, of Massachusetts, arose and said, ‘Gentlemen, I, for one, am willing to listen to any man of piety and virtue pray who at the same time is a friend of his country.’”

Right Eminent Knight Sir Albert L. Smith said in his address:—

“We often hear it said that the Grand Lecturer aided and abetted by recent Past Grand High Priests has drawn the teeth and pulled the claws out of the Arch. If such is the case, I honour him and those distinguished Craftsmen. Any one who appreciates the dignity and simplicity of the Order of the Temple cannot fail to appreciate the Royal Arch shorn of all the appearances of a Shrine ceremonial.”

“Grand Secretary Conover’s report is of course a model of completeness. Among other interesting things on which he touches are the following:—

"Last year I called attention to the fact that but three Chapters were meeting 'by the moon.' I am pleased to report that we now have a single, solitary example of moon Chapters."

"The increased interest in the Royal Arch History which we have been running as a supplement to the Proceedings is very gratifying. Many requests come from Chapters and Companions all over the world for copies of this work. Many requests have been received for its publication in book form for the purpose of presenting it to newly exalted Companions and others."

The address of M. Ex. Comp. Birmingham, of New York, is a masterpiece, as the following extracts will show our readers:—

"We note that indeed, the links of friendship are growing closer; that they are being embraced to a greater extent not only by our own Grand Jurisdiction, but those of our sister Grand Jurisdictions, until to-day, a meeting of one of our Grand Chapters in the eastern part of our country is like a gathering of neighbours, as it were. We are all interested in the welfare of each other. We all rejoice in the good things that come in your pathway. Through this interchange of visits, we are strengthened and encouraged to follow the pathway of right thinking and right acting, and we also obtain a fuller measure of the application of our labour when it is rightly directed.

"Most Excellent Companion Darrow recalls to my mind a little different situation in which a young lady took a prominent part at one of our beach resorts, during one of those balmy days in June, when, as Longfellow says, 'What is so rare as a day in June?' And on this particular day she was seated at the beach, with a young gallant at her side. She was gazing up into the heavens and the glorious Nature all about her. Suddenly she felt an irresistible desire come upon her lovely being, and she turned and she said to him, 'George, won't you kiss me.' George looked down, taken by surprise, he said: 'My dear, I cannot, my mouth is full of sand.' Then, looking up to him in a scornful way: 'Well, you had better swallow it, you need it.'

"I believe that the time has come, when if we have Companions who are bubbling over with enthusiasm, to the extent that they are looking for an opening in which to exhibit it, it can be turned into rightful paths, and can be made an asset that will be of great benefit to each of our particular Chapters.

"A moment which is intended to bring before our American people, in a light such as it has never been presented to them before, the duties which they owe to the flag, the re-

spect which is due to it, as the national emblem of our great country, and the ideals which it represents."

He speaks of peace-time patriotism and says:—

"You are, indeed, as other members of the Royal Craft, custodians of the great truths which underlie Masonic Brotherhood, and, men, you are trustees, in the truest sense of the word, of everything which pertains to the development of this great country of ours."

Grand High Priest Goff then distributed roses among the guests, quoting this verse:—

"The sweetest flower that grows,
I give thee as we part;
To thee it is a rose,
To me it is my heart."

The veteran Comp. Lou. B. Winsor delivered a characteristically pleasing speech.

The Grand Lecturer trusts that these meetings will be cherished as one of the greatest assets in their lives.

Comp. O'Hara, of Ohio, quoted this verse in his speech:—

" 'Tis woven in the world's great plan,
And fixed by Heaven's great decree.
That all the true delights of men
Should spring from sympathy."

Ark Chapter, of Windsor, Ontario, came over to confer the Degree of the Holy Royal Arch, and with this encomium from Grand High Priest Goff:—

"It is worth while for you to come and see the beautiful Canadian work, if you have never seen it. I, therefore, strongly urge upon you that you endeavour to be present to-night and witness this wonderful work."

Comp. Ben. J. Henderson spoke thus regarding Masonic Home:—

"But if we start now we will eventually reach the goal. We are away behind some of our sister Jurisdictions, for instance Indiana, with just about half the membership that we have; but they have a fine home, both for the aged and for the orphans, and they are doing a fine work. Illinois has the same, and Ohio. Pennsylvania, of course, is the "daddy" of them all. But Michigan has made a start, and I know that if the Fraternity throughout the State realizes the situation,

that they will get behind the proposition and put Michigan in the forefront."

In his report on Correspondence Comp. Conover says:—

"You will find that we are no longer an isolated Jurisdiction with no intercourse Masonically with other Jurisdictions of the world. Masons are coming to Michigan from all over the world; and, therefore, we must necessarily keep better informed of the world-wide situation."

He recommends the postponement of the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Queensland until the Capitular skies over that State are a bit clearer. He suggests the recognition of those Chapters chartered in the Republic of Mexico under the York Grand Lodge.

Canada was represented as usual by M. Ex. Comp. Conover.

The Grand High Priest Elect, Harry L. L. Izor, in response to a congratulatory address to him, quoted these impressive lines:—

"When the last hard race is run,
And we face the setting sun,
When the last grim fight is won,
A goal is gained or lost,
Then I fancy we shall turn,
Just to see and just to learn
What it was we fought to earn,
And just what the struggle cost,
Then we'll chuckle at our pride,
And then thrust our fame aside,
And we'll find our memories tied
To dear kind friends and truth."

Five pages of real practical advice and suggestion are given by the Grand Secretary devoted to the most interesting subject, "*How to Write a Chapter History.*" We commend this to all the archivists and historians and to those Chapters who if they have not appointed already such an officer, may do so after a perusal of this excellent summary of advice.

Then follow many Memorial Tablets showing that Michigan does not forget those who have gone.

Our own Grand Scribe E., Henry T. Smith, of Toronto, represents Michigan near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

A list of the officers of the General Grand Chapter is given with the following information:—

“The next Triennial Convocation will be held in the City of Denver, Colorado.

“The General Grand Chapter is made up of forty-six Grand Chapters in the United States, together with fourteen Subordinate Chapters in unoccupied or foreign territory.”

We give the whole title of the third instalment of Grand Secretary Conover’s full and reliable history thus set out:—

“A History of the Origin and Development of the Royal Arch Degree and Dependent Grades as Gathered from Various Sources. Being an effort to bring together into one book scattered Records not to be found in any one Work.”

A very important filling out of a resolution which is often incompletely quoted is given by Comp. Conover from the original:—

“On the 24th of June, 1723, at the Feast, the Grand Lodge before dinner made this Resolution: That it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make any alteration or innovation in the Body of Masonry *without the consent first being obtained of the Grand Lodge.*” (Page 321).

“This last phrase is particularly significant, as many staid old Masons have declared it to be out of the power of Grand Lodge to do so.”

He describes an interesting and unusual Masonic ceremony performed over 100 years ago by the Grand Chapter of New York, on the Hudson, which is a unique record of the completion of one of the most stupendous engineering feats of those times, the Royal Craft seating the capstone and dedicating the project for the benefit of mankind.

As to the Morgan excitement he refers us to an excellent bibliography as follows:—

“The Builder and other study magazines have recently been publishing revised articles on this so-called “Morgan excitement” and the profound agitation against Masonry which became nation-wide, and halted Masonic progress for nearly two decades. The Chapters suffered equally with the Lodges

and many held no meetings or surrendered charters and went out of business."

We trust that Comp. Conover's history of the Royal Arch Degree which is to be continued next year, will be published in book form.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation will be held in Lansing, May 19, 1926.

Harry L. Izor, Durand, Grand High Priest.

Charles A. Conover, Coldwater, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

M. Ex. Comp. William J. Works, Grand High Priest.

Membership, 16,462.

Net gain, 1,327.

The Sixty-third Annual Convocation was held in the Masonic Temple in the City of St. Paul, October 13, 1924.

Sixteen Past Grand High Priests testified their loyal allegiance by their personal presence.

Canada was represented by her Grand Representative, M. Ex. Comp. A. P. Swanstrom.

The Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters and the Grand Commander of Knights Templar were introduced.

The Grand High Priest gave a thoughtful address in which the following extracts may be of interest:—

"The three Chapters are still on our roster and are represented here to-day, but the twelve Companions who builded the foundation of our present structure so firmly have since gone to enjoy the Rewards of their Labours.

"We who meet here to-day can visualize the hopes and aspirations of these Companions who met in these early days and the turbulent years following during the Civil War period when it was difficult to get a constitutional number of Chapters represented to open a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

"Without doubt, the outstanding event of the year was the Joint Convocation held in the Auditorium in St. Paul, November 17, 1923.

"Sixty-eight Chapters of the State joined in this great event by sending candidates to make up a class of 1,167, probably the largest Masonic class in the world which ever witnessed the conferring of a Masonic degree."

Three new Chapters were constituted and three new Chapters are reported under Dispensation.

The Grand High Priest made many visitations, and his itinerary makes interesting reading.

As to his tour and as to the tour of his representatives to and from various Chapters he says:

"We come in a helpful mood and with a sincere wish of being of some value to your Chapter. The Chapter will derive such benefit as is proportionate to its desire to see him."

And he administers a well-deserved rebuke to those Secretaries and members who treated Grand Chapter communications with contumely with these words:—

"Getting no response from these, I learned that in a great many cases the Secretary had never read them in open Chapter as required by Law, but they were consigned to the waste basket.

"When I ask one of our Grand Officers to make two inspections, as I did, and he notifies them in advance that he will visit them on a certain Stated Meeting night and finds the hall dark in both cases with no one to receive them, there is something lacking in Chapter courtesy. Don't you think so? When you have invited a Grand Chapter Officer to visit you at a personal sacrifice of twenty or thirty dollars as well as the loss of time at his business, don't you think that his hotel bill should be provided for? You would not countenance anything like this happening in your own home, so why in your Chapter which you represent?"

Under Grand Representatives he says that he has always received a courteous reply after sending the fraternal greetings of his Chapter to Missouri, but he adds that Missouri and Washington are the only Jurisdictions which have been heard from, and he further adds:—

"Too little attention is paid to our duties as Grand Representatives. We are welcomed at the altar each year, extended the Grand Honours and asked to convey the fraternal greetings of this Grand Chapter to our sister Grand Chapters which we represent. How many of us do so?"

With regard to York Rite relations he says:—

“Believing that Capitular Masonry is a component part of that great branch of Masonry called the York or American Rite, I have endeavoured at all times to co-operate with the Councils and Commanderies throughout the State.”

Among his decisions we quote the following as of instructional interest:—

“Question: A Companion showing documentary evidence that he holds dual membership in Chapters located in Ireland and Scotland, having received the Mark Master and Royal Arch degrees in the Irish Chapter, the Past Master’s degree in Ireland by virtue of having been elected and presided over a Blue Lodge, and having received the Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch degrees under the Scottish Constitution, is he entitled to visit a Chapter in this Jurisdiction?”

“Answer: By virtue of his Scottish membership, No. By virtue of his having received the Actual Past Master’s degree, No. As a member under the Irish Constitution he may visit, providing he is healed in the Past and Most Excellent Master’s degrees. I was present at the meeting in which this Companion visited and convinced myself that he was a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, and that he was a member of Cullbackey Chapter at Cullbackey, Ireland. I assisted in healing him in the two degrees mentioned and invited him to visit with us.”

Under official visitations and the nursing of weak units he says:—

“From a purely business standpoint is it not good business to build up these Chapters instead of permitting the members to be stricken off the rolls, thereby losing the per capita tax which is annually paid to this Grand Body?”

“The usual complaint received from these Chapters which are inactive is ‘We have never had a Grand Chapter Officer visit us.’”

His conclusion points out Capitular opportunities in the following rallying words:—

“If I could develop a Chapter Consciousness in the Royal Arch Masons of this Jurisdiction I would consider that this one accomplishment was sufficient.

“Do you realize how humiliating it is to be present at a Chapter meeting and as soon as the actual Chapter business is over to see the officers get together for the purpose of discussing ways and means for the interest of some other Masonic Body?”

“Can you picture the condition of a Chapter which finally forces one of its members to accept the office of High Priest,

who frankly admitted that he did not think it an honour to be elected to the office but eventually gave in and as he expresses it, 'was led to the block?' That man had the ability if he had so desired to build up his Chapter, and like the Grecian Statesman when elected to an undesirable office, could 'reflect honour on the office if the office would not reflect honour on him.'

"So my advice is, if you are not willing to devote the energy and talents with which you have be endowed, in a whole hearted manner to the office to which you have been selected, don't accept it.

"Is it not time that we think seriously of our opportunities of doing something worth-while in Capitular Masonry?

"While I do not suggest that we advertise our good works, I think it time that the Chapters assert themselves.

"So, Companions, I like to visualize our Chapters taking their places in the Masonic world where they belong, our Capitular degrees conferred with all the solemnity that is in them and our Chapters undertaking some worthy work other than the mere conferring of degrees and making candidates for some higher Masonic Body."

Comp. Harry G. Walker, Dean of the Episcopal Diocese of Duluth, delivered an illustrated address on "Why I am a Protestant."

R. Ex. Comp. Oliver Ellwood, of London, one of the hard workers of Grand Chapter, always in official harness, represents Minnesota near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Fraternal Correspondence is again in the plastic hands of Comp. Charles S. Schurman, of St. Paul, who in his introduction says:—

"There is, I think a noticeable interest in matters which make for the broader usefulness of the institution in matters which affect us as citizens, and a greater desire to accomplish something along practical lines. As to this desire there is some divergence of opinion, of course, but the general trend of thinking seems to me to be that the conferring of degrees is the least important part of the work of earnest Masons. I hope that in the following pages will be found something that will help build up the character of Minnesota Masons in the real work that lies before us, as emphasized in the teachings and symbolisms of the Royal Arch."

From Alberta he extracts this sentence:—

"The Grand Chapter was welcomed by Mayor Duggan of Edmonton. In the course of his remarks he 'wondered if we, as an Order, were not too much occupied *within* our organi-

zation instead of *outward*, and doing more to show the world at-large, in these troublesome times, our influence for good."

California gives him this citation:—

"He spoke the following timely words on conditions and the trend of the times:—

"'Radicalism must not be permitted to undermine either our Governments or our Masonic Lodges. Masonry has always taught her sons that law and order were the first and primal duties towards our Government and we must ever and always strictly adhere to this doctrine.'"

Four pages are generously devoted to Canada and on our Transactions he thus comments:—

"Distinguished visitors were received and welcomed, and some of them addressed the Grand Chapter, stenographic reports of their remarks appearing in the Proceedings.

"The Grand Z.'s address was an able one. He opens with a couple of paragraphs under the head of 'Be on the Alert,' which I want to copy:—

"'Let us be ever on the alert to make the activities of our Royal Craft the stream that warms and tempers the current of modern civilization.'

"The Grand Z. endorses the Boys of De Molay. Grand Chapter had the matter before it a year before, but decided to make haste slowly and passed it up. It coming to their attention again, the matter was referred to a special committee to report next year. We sometimes make better progress by not getting there too fast.

"Inspection reports were made for all the Chapters which show the Rite in splendid condition. The Committee on the 'Condition of Capitular Masonry' could only find two discouraging features in these reports: 'the relatively small attendance of members, and the relatively large amount of arrears of dues in some districts. The Committee suggests the only remedy in the following words:—

"'Both these negative troubles can be cured by greater efficiency in administration, enthusiasm in those who lead and guide, and by making each member realize that he is a positive factor and sharer in the work and beneficent beatitudes of the Chapter.'

"We want to quote one more paragraph from this report which was written by Comp. Ponton, one of the brightest minds in Canadian Masonry:—

"'A splendidly written report on Foreign Correspondence was the handiwork of Comp. Ponton. Minnesota for 1922 is given four pages of his space. He quotes several paragraphs from Comp. Anderson's address. Several quotations are taken from Past Grand High Priest Hugo's last report on "The State of the Rite." He treats our report most kindly, quoting generously and with approval. He closes the Minne-

sota review with these words: "Minnesota is still alive." Thank you! May she ever be worthy of that designation.'

"Under Connecticut he has this comment on the Texas situation which indicates he did not sympathize with the edict of non-intercourse:—

"'Texas is, as usual, commented upon as the storm centre of the year, but Texas appears to go on doing good work.'

"Under Idaho Comp. Knepper criticized the address because of foreign language interpolations, whereupon Comp. Ponton reminds him that 'Canada is a land of dual language, and Masonry speaks the universal tongue.'

"Comp. Ponton's report has many quotations, thus making each Jurisdiction, in a measure, tell its own story. It is an exhaustive resumé of the work of other Jurisdictions."

From Colorado we quote the closing address made by Stanley C. Warner, because he is an old Bay of Quinte boy, and because what he says rings true:—

"We are just following a little too far the spirit of the times, the spirit of unrest, of dissatisfaction, and of disagreements and bickerings. If I had my way about it, no man who was not a Blue Lodge Mason would ever see the inside of a Lodge room. I would not have any one know what is in there."

Ireland and Scotland are educative reviews and we quote:—

"The Royal Arch degree comprises the Mark degree, and Mark Lodges are only held for the purpose of qualifying Brethren for the Royal Arch.

"In Ireland, an English Royal Arch Companion is admitted to the opening of the Royal Arch Chapter and allowed to see the Passing of the Veils.

"A Brother must be a Mark Master Mason before he can be exalted into the degree of the Royal Arch.

"His Scotch Royal Arch Certificate implies that he has received the degree of Mark Mason, which should be accepted as evidence thereof.

"When a Royal Arch Mason is appointed Z., he receives the Mark Installed degree.

"An English Royal Arch Mason is recognized in Scotland, but not admitted to a Chapter until after the Passing of the Veils."

We agree with our confrère when he says that the following under Florida are "wise words, fitly spoken":—

"Obedience is the core of character. A tragic sight in the world to-day is the young men and the young women who

do not discover that until it is too late. They begin, as youth often begins, with an unspoiled character, unsmirched reputation, but utterly failing to appreciate their opportunity, by lawless living they throw their chances away. They fail to see that it is easier to keep a character when they have it, than to recover it when it is lost."

Massachusetts always gives matter worth citation and under that State we find this:—

"Would not Companions and candidates have a greater regard and veneration for Capitular Masonry if its laws were strictly observed and not freely set aside to remedy the result of neglect or indifference?

"This is a kind of pertinent question to ask of a chap who is so anxious to accommodate lazy fellows who cannot look ahead in the transactions of business of their Chapters."

Pennsylvania is another of those fertile States which furnishes matter of interest:—

"He decided that 'Eastern Standard Time' must govern meetings of the Chapter, thus giving 'daylight-saving time' another knock. He refused a dispensation to confer all the degrees on a candidate who lived 115 miles away.

"The following is one of the closing paragraphs which has the right ring about it:—

"We are of the opinion that no one can teach unless he himself thoroughly understands the subject taught. It is up to us in Capitular Masonry to see that the field is fully occupied. When we, as Royal Arch Masons, do our full duty in this matter there will be no wailing and lamenting that this or that organization is destroying our influence and taking our material."

From Quebec we renew acquaintance with an old poetic gem:—

"Let knowledge grow from more to more,
And more of reverence in us dwell;
That mind and soul according well,
May make one music as before."

And of the Dean of Correspondents, M. Ex. Comp. Chambers, Minnesota says:—

"His is a meaty report and leaves one with things to think about, and make him, if a careful reader, take a mental note of himself to ascertain if some of the things he has been 'shooting off' do not need revision."

From the review of Virginia we make this quotation as of interest to all who are interested in the Mayo Clinic:—

"We did not know that the Mayo clinic had any patients than those of ample means. We had always regarded it as a rich man's institution, and we are glad to learn differently. We have in Richmond several fine hospitals with patients from many States and have found it necessary to arrange for looking after Masons resorting to them for surgical and medical attention.

"Just because a Companion has ample means is no reason why he should be neglected by his Companions, is it? Isn't it possible that such a one would appreciate the friendly hand clasp, and the fragrance of a few fresh flowers placed in his room by his brothers of the mystic tie? The Mayo clinic, however, is not a rich man's institution entirely. None are turned away so long as the space in the institution will accommodate, and stories run that the capability of the pocketbook is considered *after* the patient is taken care of."

And with the following sentence Comp. Schurman thus gracefully concludes:—

"I have endeavored to cull out of them matters that might be of interest and profit to our Minnesota Companions. The work is interesting and has involved a good deal of labor. If in any degree it shall have been found to contribute to the common stock of knowledge of the Companions, we will feel that we have been well repaid for the effort."

E. G. H. Adams, Spring Valley, Grand High Priest.

John Fishel, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

Clyde J. Van Arsdall, M.E. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 7,729.

Net gain, 226.

The Seventy-seventh Annual Convocation was held in the City of Jackson, 25th and 26th February, 1925.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation will be held in the City of Meridian, February 24th, 1926.

Canada was represented by R.E. Comp. William Kimmel.

The Grand High Priest thus opens his comprehensive address:—

It is a delightful privilege we have to meet once each year to greet each other and to renew those priceless friendships

made possible only through this association. We meet to-day to review what has been done through the past year and to plan for the future."

He pays a wonderful tribute to the late M. Ex. Comp. and M.W. Bro. Charles H. Blum, whose life reads like a romance, and shows what can be accomplished by a man of heart and head in the United States and in British North America where there are equal opportunities and so many potentialities. He was born in Alsace-Lorraine, the youngest of nine children. During the Franco-Prussian War as a mere boy, understanding the German language, he was able to give valuable information to the French Officers. He came to Mississippi in 1873, and his career is thus further detailed:—

"Being handicapped in not being able to speak or understand English, he spent his nights in study, and in a short time acquired a liberal education. He was a pioneer in the Mississippi Delta and resided there during the days of reconstruction.

"He developed with the Delta and was a prominent merchant and cotton planter.

"He was prominent in state affairs. In 1906 he was chosen Grand Master of Masons, and in 1907 was Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter.

"In 1916 he moved to Gadsden, Alabama, and soon became a leader in civic affairs, and during the World War he was an intense patriot and did his bit like a true and loyal American.

"He was a member of the Jewish Church and was always proud of his connection with the same."

Much attention is given by the Grand High Priest to the proposed revision of the Ritual and many details of the proposed changes throw more light upon what has been brought to the attention of many Jurisdictions than any other address. The main idea is:—

"To give dignity and decorum to the degree and make its rendition conform to the sublime truths it teaches."

Under General Conditions the Grand High Priest says sturdily and suggests a remedy for retrograde indifference:—

"As I see it, there are two great troubles: first, the innumerable diversions which attract us to other things and second, pure and unadulterated indifference. There is an ancient Chinese proverb, 'If we would get the view, we must first climb the mountain.' The mountain we must climb is the mountain of 'More Knowledge' of the Chapter degrees.

"If perchance you find yourself thinking of your Chapter officers or of the rest of the members as 'They' instead of 'We,' take stock of yourself and take prompt measures with that state of mind, for it is a danger signal. It will weaken your Chapter. The 'We' members are the only ones who can give to and receive from each other. No true Royal Arch Mason can afford a 'they' attitude to the Companions of this Chapter.

He speaks highly of the meeting at Meridian of Committees of the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Commandery to formulate plans for the education of the Masonic Craft in the meaning of York Rite Masonry.

Eleven Past Grand High Priests added dignity to the Proceedings.

The Committee on Memorials added the following words to the tribute of the Grand High Priest to the late M. Ex. Comp. Blum:—

"He ranked among the brilliant galaxy of Masons, who brought credit and distinction to this Grand Jurisdiction. He was loving, generous, true and intellectual. Those of us who knew him will miss his genial smile, and his generous welcome."

Comp. O. Frank Hart, Past Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand Master of the General Grand Council, was received and in his reply said among other interesting remarks:—

"Do we realize that we are speaking for thousands of our Companions who have chosen us as their representatives? Is our vision broad enough to look well into the future? What is Royal Arch Masonry any way?"

"The Royal Arch Degree attempts to portray the return of the faithful after seventy years of captivity. It describes in beautiful language the return of these Giblemites over the rough and rugged road to the scenes of their former glory."

Several reports from Grand Representatives were read and appreciatively received. This is an excellent

custom and helps to make of the Grand Representatives really live wires of communication.

The Representative of Mississippi near the Grand Chapter of Canada is R. Ex. Comp. John J. Farley, of Belleville.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. George C. Myers, of Jackson, who in his introduction says:—

“In almost every Grand Jurisdiction we have reviewed, the Grand High Priests report that the Chapter Officers are able to confer the degrees without even a peep at the Ritual.

“Few, if any of us, will ever scale the heights as M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn did. He was not only well versed in Masonry but also in his chosen profession, being a physician of great renown.”

Under Arkansas he quotes a ruling which may be of interest to us:—

“He also ruled that an application for a dimit must be read before the Chapter at a Stated Convocation. The High Priest can then declare that dimit will be issued if there are no objections, but the applicant must be free from all charges either financial or moral before the dimit is issued.”

Canada, 1924, is reviewed in an interesting manner by our confrère who makes several citations. Of the address of the Grand First Principal he says:—

“The address of the Grand Z. contains much food for thought.

“We excerpt from what he has to say on Co-operation:

“‘We must have co-operation as well as unity and harmony in our Chapter work. No great results are accomplished without group action.’”

Of Canada’s Fraternal Review he is kind enough to say:—

“Companion Ponton makes an able and comprehensive review of other Jurisdictions. We excerpt from his foreword:

“‘Here beginneth then our “Little Journey to the Homes” of those who strive to excel as Excellent Companions in all that contributes to make life worth living through generous friendship, practical philanthropy and real ideals.’

“Gives Mississippi a very fair review of three pages, and seems to agree with the writer in what he said in his last review about the rapid advancement of candidates.”

He finds as we found under District of Columbia, Grand High Priest Roe Fulkerson simply irresistible and he says and quotes:—

“The Grand High Priest’s address is a gem. We excerpt from his opening remarks:

“To me as captain, the voyage has been a very, very happy one. As I am well insured, indicating longevity, and as only the good die young, I expect long to remember the placid seas of fraternity, the azure skies of friendship, the friendly ships hailed in passing, the sun-tipped white sails of brotherhood.’

“To the officers who shared the quarterdeck with me I give my heartfelt thanks. It does not take an especially brilliant man to guide as well organized a ship as ours, but it does require unity of effort. So if it is found that even I have been able to keep her within the chartered course, to my officers must much of the credit go.

From his autobiography we take this sentence and remember in reading it that Roe Fulkerson is a journalist and a good one, heading a league of good cheer:—

“Come over some morning and watch me run a blank page of pretty yellow paper into the machine while I say to myself ‘Be funny, darn ye?’ No matter how late I was out the night before, no matter how indigestible the banquet, no matter how the game went, I must be funny! It is very, very sad.”

Georgia is quoted approvingly as follows:—

“Our Companions are realizing more and more that in securing new Companions, we are leading men nearer to the Supreme High Priest, to the worship of the only true and living God. Let us all realize that if we truly love God, we will love all mankind, be better friends, husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers. Let us continue to push forward and strive harder each day for higher and better things.”

He pays under Louisiana a glowing tribute to the late P.G.H.P. Joseph Sinai, an illustrious Mason of many virtues.

We cannot resist reproducing as our confrère does, part of the address of the Grand High Priest of North Dakota which will appeal to all of us:—

“We must have better ritualism, more dramatic fervour, more realism, but beyond this we must furnish in our Chapters, and what we say of Chapters is equally true of every other Masonic body, greater opportunity to get together in a

friendly sort of way and drink from the fountain of brotherly love and spiritual inspiration. This is said in sober earnestness—an earnestness born of conviction and experience. We are living in the last part of the first quarter of the twentieth century and unless we bring our Masonic methods and ideals in keeping with these modern days, we fail,—and we must not fail. The challenge to the Grand Chapter is clearer than ever before. Are we going to meet the challenge and draw new plans, and new designs upon the Trestleboard for the New Temple?”

Tennessee gives him these verses:—

“ . . . here is another turn of the road,
Another year is gone;
Take a strong new grip and grasp of your load
And then—go on! Go on!

“And now into the opening year
We bravely tread;
Our wandering feet shall know no fear
Divinely led.’”

F. F. Rankin, Columbia, Grand High Priest.
Edward L. Faucette, Meridian, Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

Willis A. McCullah, Grand High Priest.
Membership, 35,706.
Net gain, 620.

The biography and portrait of the Grand High Priest appropriately precede the Transactions.

There was a Memorial session held before the opening of Grand Chapter in which tribute was paid to the memories of M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn, M. Ex. Comp. Johnson and Ex. Comp. Cristy, and this was evidently conducted in a most dignified and impressive manner.

Comp. Dr. Emmett Craig presented Grand Chapter with a bust of the late Dr. Kuhn, which is reproduced in the Proceedings, a most striking likeness, evidently the *magnum opus* of a skillful Craftsman as well as a loving friend.

Comp. Rev. Andreas Bard delivered a wonderful eulogy on Dr. Kuhn from which we take the following extracts:—

"Dr. Kuhn, in this age of materialism, when men consider lands and wealth and material possessions, was an idealist, that is to say, he believed in the human soul, and he believed in the value of a man, and he put human life and human brotherhood above everything. His mighty ideal was to make masonry a reality in the world. Dr. Kuhn took his Masonry seriously; but he realized that this was a day when men are tearing down; the bulwarks of salvation seem to be standing like broken men, and Dr. Kuhn realized that the one force that could stop the coming deluge was the Masons, the Builders, and so he gave his time, and much valuable time, he gave to Masonry. That is Masonry as he understood it. He had very little regard for the jewelry Mason. He said that jewelry ought to be but a symbol of the great thought, and great truth, that is taught by it—and you will agree again, Companions, that there is something that everyone who enters the circle should be impressed with. He loved the beautiful. Who is here who has not heard him recite selections from some of the choicest masters? At home it was Tennyson and Robert Burns."

A very interesting page of the Proceedings, an example well worth following by other Grand Chapters, is a list of the ruling officers of all other Masonic Bodies in the State with the dates of their meetings—a bird's-eye view of fraternal activity and administration.

The Seventy-ninth Annual Convocation was held April 28, 1925, in the Christian Church in the City of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. From the invocation offered by Grand Chaplain Reader this sentence stands out:—

"We thank Thee for all that Thou has done for us. We thank Thee for friends and loved ones; for health and strength and faculties; for opportunities of service; and especially, in this hour, for our fellowship as Companions of the Royal Arch."

The Grand Master of Grand Lodge, the Grand Commander of Knights Templar, and the General Grand Master and the Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters were received and accorded all the honours.

Twelve Past Grand High Priests not merely answered roll call but participated in the administrative work.

The address of the Grand High Priest was a notable document. He begins thus by an appeal to the heart and does not neglect the head:—

“Here we meet the glad handclasp and genial smile of old friends, and encompass with the fraternal chain of love and fellowship, those who have recently joined our ranks.”

“Old friends. Mere words but ill express
What friendship means to thee and me.
The joy that thrills each Brother’s breast,
As hearts beat warm and hands are pressed
In firmest clasp. To thee and me
Like showers to the thirsty land,
These greetings are. These gatherings grand
Renew our hope, inspire our faith,
Enrich our souls with love and truth,
And send us forth with purpose strong
In freedom’s cause ’gainst errors wrong.”

From his decisions we take the following as of more than local interest:—

“Question: An application for degrees is received with check covering fee. Investigation Committee appointed. Before Committee report, applicant requests withdrawal of petition as he will be unable to meet payment on check. Can petition be withdrawn?

“Answer: It can.

“Question: Same situation as above, except Committee has reported on petition. Can petition be withdrawn?

“Answer: It cannot.

“Question: Can a Companion hold two offices in a Chapter at one and the same time?

“Answer: He can. Our By-Laws do not contain any express provision prohibiting this condition, but for practical, charitable and democratic reasons, I would not advise it.”

With regard to chain letters—that insufferable nuisance which is however dying out, he confirms the views of this reviewer heretofore expressed, as follows:—

“Having previously suffered this said sad predicament, I could not see where the additional calamity could befall me, hence I ‘busted’ the chain in all instances, deeming this ‘Ancient Masonic Tradition’ as superstitious and un-Masonic, and not worthy of countenance or continuance.”

He advocates as we have done, the preparation of a history of Grand Chapter and of the Constituent Chapters, as to which he says:—

"The history of the Grand Chapter should be put into some kind of form so that it may be preserved. Many Chapters throughout the State are full of Masonic history and tradition, written in books and records, and spoken 'by word of mouth.' This information is existing now; it may be gone to-morrow.

"The Craft are looking for more light, and are seeking instruction and information in our beautiful degrees."

It was evidently with real pleasure and delight that the Grand Chapter of Missouri had entertained the Earl of Cassillis, whose handsome portrait (in kilts), adorns the Proceedings. The reception of the Scottish ruler of the Royal Craft and the impression he made is thus recorded:—

"One of the auspicious occasions of my official year; one that stands out in bold contrast to all other, and one that signally places the Grand Chapter of Missouri in the foremost ranks of the Masonic world was the visit of Most Excellent Companion Archibald Kennedy, Earl of Cassillis, First Grand Principal, Supreme Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Scotland, in Kansas City on June 14th and 15th.

"The Earl of Cassillis is a very eminent and interesting personage, able, distinguished, scholarly; of pleasing and affable manner, and thoroughly imbued with the universal spirit of Freemasonry. The Lady Cassillis is most gracious and charming; of attractive characteristics and easily won her way into the hearts of all."

Of M. Ex. Comp. Johnson he says:—

"He was zealous, able, conscientious. He lived and loved Freemasonry. He regarded it as a grand, benevolent and charitable Institution, and hence it commanded his time and his talents on all appropriate occasions.

"Brethren, a mighty Craftsman works no more,
With maul and level, plumb and square and line;
His tools lie idle on the checkered floor—
The workman gone upon the Master's sign.
Yet true and polished there his ashler stands,
The chiselled witness of his cunning skill."

His visitations cover page after page and suggest dynamic energy. He has certainly kept the touch, having made 74 Chapter visitations, accompanied, with three exceptions, by the Grand Lecturer, Ex. Comp. Marquis, to whose wife he pays an unusual and chivalrous compliment in the following words:—

"I would be remiss in my duty and apparently neglectful of my appreciation, if I did not mention in this address, one who has catered to and supplied my comforts on many and divers occasions, and at all hours. So with sincere thanks from a grateful heart, I humbly bow before that capable and lovely paragon of hostesses, Mrs. George Claude Marquis."

The Grand High Priest then worthily concludes his unique address:—

"Individually, we are of but little moment, but drops in the mighty current that rushes on to eternity. The great stream of Freemasonry has rolled on for ages, gathering new force with each passing year, and will so continue for ages to come. The drops that compose it—who and what are they? How immaterial then, are personal projects or powers; how vitally necessary that the great river should continue undisturbed in its proper channel; its purity unsullied, its power unbroken to the end.

"Particularly to our capable and much loved Grand Lecturer, upon whose Masonic learning and ability I have drawn without stint; and who has ever been capable, likable and ready for any emergency, are my special acknowledgments due.

"Ere we close our task, let us hope that the materials we have gathered from distant quarry and workshop may be found of value in the construction of our spiritual, moral and Masonic edifice. May our Institution stand like the burning bush on the Midian plain, which would not be consumed; and as the bush emitted flames which leaped into the heart of Moses and filled him with power, so may our Institution send forth messages which will stir and bless all mankind."

The Grand Secretary who does all things well thus refers to biographies and lack of biographies:—

"During the year an attempt was made to secure the biography of all Grand and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter. In response to a letter sent out from this office some two or three Grand and Past Grand Officers complied, showing that it is not always the Secretaries who fail to respond to inquiries."

On the second day session General Grand King Davis, of the General Grand Chapter of the United States P.G.H.P. of Illinois, was introduced and accorded the Grand Honours.

The Committee on Necrology thus bid a final farewell to the late Dr. Kuhn in his own Mother Grand Chapter:—

"His address was prepared and printed, and his travelling bag packed for the journey, when, on the night of September first—

"The weary wheels of life stood still

He ceased at once to work and live.'

"We know he was ready. A skilled alienist, he rejected the philosophy which holds that thought is but a secretion of the brain, but held the truer view that the musician is greater than the instrument and survives the wreck of matter."

It is proposed to erect during the next few years a wonderful Memorial Building and a Memorial labour of love—a worthy tribute—the outlines of which are given as follows:—

"1. The erection of a handsome and commodious library and museum, to be known as the William F. Kuhn Memorial Library.

"2. The equipping of this library and museum with the best literature and Masonic information available.

"3. A great educational and uplift programme for the education of all Freemasons, but especially those of the Royal Arch."

"After going thoroughly into our financial situation and considering the practicability of our plans, we propose as one of the first steps in the carrying out of this proposed William Frederick Kuhn Memorial, the erection, *when the necessary funds have been secured*, of a Memorial Building to house all of the activities of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, including the above enumerated. Such a building must not be considered until every detail has been thoroughly worked out and the funds in sight. We can readily see that a period of ten years might easily be needed, for this building must be a model of its kind, and a monument to the Royal Arch Masons of Missouri."

The report on the Memorial Hall was referred to the Committee on Finance as it involved expenditure of a large sum of money.

The Grand Convention of Anointed High Priesthood was held on April 28th, and much business was transacted.

Comp. Orson H. Swearingen, of Kansas City, who has just been elected Grand High Priest, is the Grand Representative of Canada, and Missouri is represented by a grand old Mason of our Jurisdiction, Alexander G. Horwood, of Toronto.

The Fraternal Correspondence is in the able hands of Comp. David M. Wilson, of Milan.

Alabama gives him this citation:—

“Looking back at his history, Masonic and otherwise, one is not surprised at his vigorous utterances and strong efforts. It pays to put only strong men at the head of the Masonic Grand Bodies.”

From California he obtains this interesting item:—

“He states that the interest and enthusiasm of the Chapters had been greatly aroused and stimulated by numerous out-of-doors district meetings held in a secluded spot on the ranch of some Companion. That there the Mark and Royal Arch Degrees had been conferred, Companions being refreshed after their labours by a delicious barbecue.

“Everywhere he found the Companions helpful, courteous and hospitable. The only question being, who could best work and best agree for the advancement of Capitular Masonry.”

Canada receives 5 pages of review in which he says:—

“In his address, the Grand Z. says no argument was needed to convince a Companion that Royal Arch Masonry has some higher and nobler mission than the conferring of degrees, a greater scope than a mere repetition of ceremonies, be they ever so venerable with age or beautiful with sentiment.

“A very interesting report on the condition of Capitular Masonry was made by M.E. Comp. Ponton. He notes that in 1894, there were, in the Jurisdiction, 87 Chapters, 4,023 members; in 1904, there were 108 Chapters and 7,676 members; in 1914, 166 Chapters and 18,333 members; and in 1924, after the pangs and joys of last year's productive birth of the Gemini-twins of the West, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, there were still 149 Chapters and 24,547 members.”

He speaks of the great Luncheon at the Banqueting Hall of the Temple, and the speech of R.W. Bro. Rowland, which appears to have attracted the universal attention of our sister Jurisdictoins. He also adds the following:—

“And in his response, the Grand Z. said that while the Lodges selected the material, the Chapters still sift it further; they were not looking for quantity, but for quality, and were getting it.”

Iowa, always full of meat, gives opportunity for this comment:—

“Thirty-one were anointed, consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood. The address of the M.E. President of that body is printed. He says that the Order is not conferred alike in every state, but there seems to be no disposition to make it universal.

“It is like unto Melchizedek, to whom the Order is dedicated—it has neither father nor mother.”

Among the decisions under Michigan he quotes the following:—

“If a member of the Ku Klux Klan was found among the officers of a Chapter, and was advanced by ballot to the next station, had the High Priest the right to refuse to declare him elected.”

“His answer was ‘No.’ He ruled that the Blue Lodge room in which the Chapter met could not be used for social events.”

New Jersey gives him this opportunity of banter with New York:—

“The Grand High Priest of New York referred to the audience as ‘Most Excellent Companions and fellow-sinners.’ No doubt he knew what he was talking about.”

Under Texas we cull a few paragraphs of interest where, citing decisions given, our confrère says:—

“I have had an awful temptation to show your York Rite pamphlet to some good Master Mason; would it be very wrong?”

“Don’t wait for a dispensation; do it now, anything that Masons write is open to the world.

“Where should the Bible be opened in the Mark Master’s Degree?”

“Answer: The Bible is customarily opened in the Old Testament since the Lodge, Chapter and Council Degrees are supposed to ante-date the New Testament. Many Chapters, however, open at the 20th Chapter of Matthew, while conferring the Mark Master.”

The Eightieth Annual Convocation will be held in the City of Kirksville, April 27, 1926.

Orson H. Swearingen, Kansas City, Grand High Priest.

Ray V. Denslow, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA.

James M. Robertson, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 8,228.
Net gain, 186.

The handsome features of M. Ex. Comp. Robertson preface the Proceedings.

The Grand Chapter assembled in Fifty-eighth Annual Convocation in Omaha, December 10, 1924.

From the invocation of the Grand Chaplain we quote these prayers:—

“Within the precincts of the Royal Arch as Companions may we perform the obligations enjoined upon us, making for fervency, zeal, fidelity, and affection. As Companions may we within this fellowship, whose mysteries promote satisfaction, harmony, and peace, be duly impressed with the solemnity of the ceremonies of our institution.

“So may the Royal Craft each day draw a little nearer to Thee, and may our Companions allow no day to pass by without in kindness and goodness doing their part, whether it be great or little, to make Thee real and true to their fellow man.”

The Grand High Priest in his thoughtful address said:—

“Royal Arch Masonry is the cap-stone of the Masonic edifice. Its foundation is the Third degree, but the Royal Arch is essential to the perfection of the Master’s degree as a science of symbolism. For a complete understanding of Masonry they must be regarded as correlated, the first and second volumes of a continuous history. The absence of either volume would mutilate the symmetry of Fraternity. Both the symbolic and allegoric instruction of the Royal Arch inculcates the great lesson of the resurrection of the body, and the immortality of the soul. The same fundamental instruction is taught in the Master’s degree. The system, it is evident, if not equally apparent, is the same. Another has said: ‘Though under a thicker veil, the same teaching is preserved in the ceremonies of the Royal Arch. There is a resurrection of that which has been buried—a discovery of that which has been lost—an exchange of that which, like the body, the earthly tenement, was temporary, for that which, like the soul, is intended to be permanent. The life which we pass on earth is but a substitute for that glorious one which we are to spend in eternity.’”

In his memorial to the late M. Ex. Comp. Morgan he cited as his great work the following:—

"For many years he was secretary of the Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans, and he gave freely of his time to the management of the Masonic Home for Children in Fremont. The good deeds of our beloved Companions, like seed sown for the harvest, will bring forth abundant fruit."

The Masonic law is rigidly enforced in Nebraska and several Chapters were fined for failure to comply with the law in regard to receipting for the Rituals, an important and prudential feature. There are too many copies of "The Work" in circulation.

Special attention is paid to the Boys' Home and the Girls' Home at Fremont, and to the Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth., to which a tract of 15 acres of ground has been added. The cost of the building is estimated at \$125,000. Each one of the national units cares for 40 residents and the highest moral and physical development of the children is attained.

In his conclusion which he heads "What is the Hour?" the Grand High Priest says:—

"That he who would enter the sanctum sanctorum of the genius of Royal Arch Masonry must enter by self-denying toil, and the hinges of its doors will swing open as readily for the peasant as for the prince, for the subject as for the King.

"Companions of the Royal Arch, the past is secure, the future is before us and it demands the best that we have to give for its welfare."

The Grand Lecturer gives an energetic report, taking all the blame and sharing all the credit and signing himself "zealously and fraternally yours."

Sixteen Past Grand High Priests attended the East, a splendid gathering for one of the smaller Grand Chapters.

Canada's Representative did not answer the Roll Call.

The recognition of Queensland was postponed.

New South Wales was entered as in Fraternal relationship.

From the Committee's report on Jurisprudence we take the following and this was afterwards confirmed:—

"It shall be the duty of each High Priest to know that all members of his Chapter are in good standing in some Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, working under a Grand Lodge recognized by Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Nebraska. This shall be certified to by the High Priest and Secretary in the annual returns made to the Grand Chapter, and the Grand Secretary shall provide a place in the annual returns for such statement."

Canada's Representative in Nebraska is Comp. Clemens A. Spellman and Nebraska is represented in Canada by M. Ex. Comp. Richard H. Spencer.

The Order of High Priesthood met in conclave and presented much business.

There is no Correspondence Review outside the report on Jurisprudence.

M. Ex. Comp. N. R. Browne, Hastings, Grand High Priest.

M. Ex. Comp. E. White, Omaha, Grand Secretary.

NEVADA.

Edward Barber, M.E., Grand High Priest.

Membership, 645.

Net gain, 5.

The Fifty-second Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter convened in Masonic Temple, Reno, 9th of June, 1925.

An example of the enthusiasm of this small but efficient Grand Chapter is embodied in the personal attendance of no less than 14 Past Grand High Priests at the Annual Meeting. All honour to them.

Grand High Priest King, of the Grand Chapter of California, was welcomed with Grand Honours.

"Grand High Priest King expressed his appreciation of the honours bestowed and the great happiness it brought him in being with the Nevada Companions, told of the need of a constructive policy in Capitular Masonry and of unity of effort for the great principles of the Royal Craft."

Two pleasant incidents are thus recorded:—

"Past Grand High Priest Charles H. Gorman extended greetings from the Board of Regents of the State University, with a cordial invitation to the Royal Craftsmen and their families to visit the institution.

"With the invitation came beautiful vases of violet irises and red snap dragons.

"The American Flag is displayed by every Chapter in the Jurisdiction, and the Grand Chapter, believing that every Royal Arch Mason should be loyal to his country, true to the government, and obedient to its laws, received the Flag, and, under escort, placed it in the East, the Companions all singing 'America.'"

Our Nevada Companions are evidently making of their State "a land of scholars and a nurse of arms."

The address of the Grand High Priest is short but to the point. In speaking of those who have gone he quotes:—

"Laurels may flourish round the conqueror's tomb,
But happiest they, who win the world to come."

Among his decisions we take the following in connection with the Work:—

"Several young members of one of our Subordinate Chapters complained of rough stuff in the work.

"I ordered it stopped. I told the Chapter as long as I was Grand High Priest I would not permit extreme work of any kind, and was willing to abide by the decision of this Grand Body."

"Above all let us be sure that our work is perfect. Good work, true work, square work is what we require."

As to the condition of the Rite he faces the situation and says regretfully but bravely:—

"Capitular Masonry is nearly at a standstill in Nevada. Our Subordinate Chapters are not as active as they should be, they seem to have gotten into a rut and not making much effort to get out. This will not do—other bodies are gaining, why should not we?

"Again I hold that this Body is lax in not adopting some one Ritual. You certainly cannot expect your Grand High Priest to recognize all sorts of rituals, and unless he does how can he pass judgment upon their work."

The Students' Loan Fund receives every encouragement and he urges the Companions to contribute 50c. per capita for its support, and says:—

"The Loan Fund is something tangible that has not, as it appears to me, been present in our programme of the past."

"Last year Past Grand High Priest William B. S. Park spoke as follows:—'I am pleased to note the growth of our

Royal Arch Student Loan Fund, and it is my prayer that it will continue to grow and be the greatest blessing to our boys and girls that is intended. Personally I want to say that I am in hearty accord with all that my predecessors have done.' "Imbued with service, animated with a full measure of our responsibility to others, let us build something here which shall be enduring, and which shall be consistent with our professions."

Grand Secretary Vanderlieth's report is a model and both in it and in his wonderful memorial pages he gives an anthology of real poetry most unusual in a Grand Secretary. Here is a sample:—

"He has not served who gathers gold,
Nor has he served whose life is told
In selfish battles he has won,
Or deeds of skill that he has done.
Only he has served who now and then
Has helped along his fellowmen."

The Grand High Priest of California in his address said encouragingly:—

"He expressed appreciation of the many courtesies shown him during his visit, and praised the Nevada Companions for keeping Masonry at high standard under exceedingly great difficulties."

The Order of High Priesthood held its Annual Convention and elected officers. Returns of all constituent Chapters are given.

The general Memorial Page is worth reproducing:—

IN REMEMBRANCE

OF

THE COMPANIONS BELOVED

OF THE

Grand Chapter of Nevada

WHO IN THE YEAR PAST HAVE HEARD THE CALL
TO PASS WITHIN THE VAIL

Elsewhere Are Writ Their Names on the Records
of This Convocation, but More Deeply on the
Tablet of the Living Hearts of
Those Who Remember

And then follow page after page entitled "The Gardens of Immortality," each preceded or followed by an appropriate verse. Here is one of them:—

“Enter and live! Thou hast not lived before;
 We were but soul-cast shadows. Ah, no more
 The heart shall bear the burdens of the brain;
 Nor shall the strong heart think, nor think in vain.
 In the dear company of peace, and those
 Who bore for man life’s utmost agony,
 Thy soul shall climb to cliffs of still repose,
 And see before thee lie Time’s Mystery,
 And that which is God’s time, Eternity.”

His inscription in memory of Past Grand High Priests is brief and appropriate:—

In Memory of
Our Past Grand High Priests

Who have passed
 Along the way
 Into that Day—
 Beyond the End of the Trail.

Comp. Frank Bell is the Grand Representative from the Grand Chapter of Canada, and Comp. William A. Mowatt is the representative of Nevada near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Report on Fraternal Correspondence is as usual in the entertaining and efficient charge of Grand Secretary Vanderlieth, who gives under each Jurisdiction a word of original comment, each paragraph ringing true. He is easily in the first rank of the reviewers of the Round Table.

His introductory verses are as follows:—

“Grant us the will to fashion as we feel,
 Grant us the strength to labour as we know,
 Grant us the purpose, ribbed and edged with steel
 To strike the blow.

“Knowledge we ask not, knowledge Thou has lent,
 But, Lord, the will—there lies the bitter need.
 Give us to build above the deep intent
 The deed, the deed.”

He gives a brief exhortation to us all under Alabama:—

“Nothing adds to a Chapter and attracts as much as degree work well done, and nothing yields a greater benediction than busy hours filled with steady effort in bringing about such a condition. It takes brains, energy and work to win success, and without them, Companions, there will be no glory in achievement.”

Alberta caught his fancy and he says:—

“Degrees and jewelry, and boasts of the beautiful lessons of the various degrees count for little. It is the substance of the degrees well digested and the application of the teachings along life’s trail that make the true Craftsman.”

“Don’t prate about what is just right,
But bare your fists and show your might.”

California gives him this opportunity for comment:—

“Craftsmen will get more out of Royal Arch Masonry if they will put more into it. High wisdom arranges success for all blessed with the quality of keeping-at-it. We mortals average up fairly well in intelligence. It is by giving more attention to study and perseverance of the matters before us that cause some to rise to greater eminence than others. The lessons of the Chapter room are for use in daily life, and the more fully we understand them, and the spiritual and moral assistance to be derived therefrom, the more fully can we make right living easy and smooth for others.”

We thank him for his fine long review of Canada covering four pages and full of matter. Canadian Companions are proud as they read:—

“The welcoming exercises are always an interesting part of Canada’s Royal Arch Convocation. They are filled with inspiration and a fine spirit of fellowship is encountered on every side. The result is that the young members return home stimulated and eager for the tasks ahead, and the old are stirred to renewed efforts to lift humanity above the petty meannesses of ordinary life. At the close of the year’s Convocation the Companions carry home a new insight and a bit of experience of how things are done by the Craft at work. New experiences yield new information for the conduct of life. Our outlook is broadened and we learn to perceive beauty heretofore overlooked, all for the good of the Craft and its upbuilding.”

“M.E. Companion W. H. Davis delivered his address, which was both entertaining and educational.”

He quotes M. Ex. Comp. Davis with approbation as follows:—

“Masonry, in my opinion, should dwell in the heads and hearts of its devotees and be exemplified in their lives and actions and not be a subject for public and possibly unprofitable display.”

He has a word of praise for the admirable report of Comp. Gardiner on the Condition of Capitular Masonry and says:—

“These words are timely:

“‘More material for the Temple,’ is the theory upon which we base our efforts, but surely only material of tested quality. As the builder’s first thought is to the quality of his material, so our first consideration should be as to the character and conduct of those who seek further enlightenment.”

Of the report on Correspondence he has a meritorious word of praise for Ex. Comp. Blgrave, D.D., of Peterboro, whom we thus introduce to him as the initials formed a problem:—

“The report is again by Companion Ponton. It is excellent in every way and it gives all readers much food for thought.

“Nevada’s volume for 1924 receives a well written review, initialed ‘R. C. B.’ We did our best to supply the missing letters, but were unsuccessful, but Companion B—— you belong to us. We express our appreciation and hope Nevada falls your way again.”

The report on Correspondence is thought well of, and he closes his review with these words:—

“Our best greetings to distant but friendly Nevada.”

Under Colorado we read these brave words:—

“It takes courage to make right living, right thinking and right doing, as taught by Masonry, a part of our daily lives. If it were as easy to do good as it is to preach good there would be more saints and fewer preachers. Masonry in practice takes application and pluck, backed by what to-day we call nerve. Try it! If we, as Royal Arch Craftsmen, are to make Masonry function as it should we must carry its teachings to others, enlarging the scope of our activities for service that greater good may come. It is in the busy round of every day that our opportunity lies.”

Iowa, the State pre-eminently of Masonic research, gave him this thought:—

“We lack the courage to take the initiative. Masonry needs more men of the caliber of William Lloyd Garrison, who was as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice; who was earnest for the right, refusing to equivocate or excuse, who stood his ground and was determined to be heard. Masonry to-day demands strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands.

And Massachusetts produced this excellent comment:—

“So have we urged. So long as the constituent or fundamental principles are adhered to, why worry. The distinguishing characteristics of the Royal Craft—and of the Blue, as well—is service—for God and Fellow man. Persistency must be brought to bear upon the spreading of the social and moral virtues among mankind, leaving the non-essentials to care for themselves. Energetic and faithful work for God and man only will bring a completion of the task.”

His conclusion leaves a sense of satisfaction in his good and original work well and worthily done.

Charles E. Whitesides, Elko, Grand High Priest.

Edward D. Vanderlieth, Reno, Grand Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

M. Ex. Grand High Priest George E. Day (Deceased).

Membership, 1,573.

Increase, 94.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Moncton, 27th August, 1924.

Owing to the death of the Grand High Priest, R. Ex. Comp. W. H. Smith, Deputy Grand High Priest presided, and in his address with regard to the late lamented M. Ex. Comp. Day, he says:—

“You are all aware of the lamentable loss which brought me to this office a few months ago.

“The founders of our Institution were wise when they made provision that when one dies another shall continue on the good work.

“It also shows to us how frail life is; we rush on, we die, yet the world does not stop.”

He makes the following suggestion which shows how closely allied in nomenclature of officers New Brunswick is to United States Jurisdictions:—

“I would recommend that we make a Ruling that any High Priest must himself be anointed before he can exalt any one to the Sublime Degree of Royal Arch Mason.”

Ex. Comp. Charles T. Wilkinson, of Brockville, represents New Brunswick near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

A cordial recognition to the Grand Chapter of Saskatchewan was extended.

The grateful acknowledgement of \$500 contribution from Grand Chapter to the Orphans' Homes sets an example to Canada.

Edgar W. Mair, of Woodstock, represents Canada near the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.

The Order of High Priesthood met also on the 27th of August and the result of their work is thus recorded:—

"The Master of Ceremonies having announced that the applicants were in attendance, Companions were introduced and with due solemnity were each anointed and consecrated a High Priest after the order of Melchizedek."

M. Ex. Comp. William H. Smith, Grand High Priest, Saint John.

R. Ex. Comp. J. Twining Hartt, Grand Secretary, Saint John.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Eugene P. Hadley, M.E., G.H.P.

Membership, 5,886.

Increase, 42.

The One Hundred and Sixth Annual Convocation was held in Concord, May 19, 1925. Eleven Past Grand High Priests testified their fidelity by their welcome presence.

Canada's Grand Representative was absent at roll call.

The form of opening of Grand Chapter is thus described:—

"A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened in due form by Union Chapter, No. 7, of Laconia, whereupon the M.E. Grand High Priest declared the Grand Chapter opened in Ample Form."

Among the distinguished guests were Grand Officers of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut,

Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, the Grand Master of New Hampshire, and General Grand High Priest Blake who took the chair, spoke briefly but happily and returned the gavel. He was introduced by M. Ex. Comp. Arthur D. Prince, of Boston.

From the address of the Grand High Priest we have these gleanings:—

“While we are happy in our present prosperity, let us not forget those who have been called to the Most Grand Chapter above, those who have borne the burdens of our beloved Order in the past, and have made it possible for us to enjoy the happy conditions which exist to-day, the results of their trial, and the fruits of their labours.”

He made many visitations both personally and by his direct Representatives, who reported directly to him.

The visitors were all heard very acceptably with this result:—

“Nearly all of our distinguished visitors named above, were given the opportunity of addressing the Grand Chapter, affording a season of rich and fraternal addresses.”

Many In Memoriam pages record the memory of Deceased Companions.

Canada is represented by Comp. Frank R. Marston, of Farmington, while New Hampshire is represented near Canada by M. Ex. Grand Z. Davis.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence by Comp. Charles Byron Spofford, is prefaced by Kipling’s well known but never stale verses, of which we reproduce the first:—

“When earth’s last picture is painted, and the tubes are
twisted and dried,
When the oldest colours have faded, and the youngest critic
has died,
We shall rest, and, faith we shall need it—lie down for an
æon or two,
Till the Master of All Good Workmen shall set us to work
anew.

Our confrère thus introduces his work:—

“Of the fifty Grand Chapters in the United States and fourteen in foreign countries, only six have not been received. Some idea of the magnitude of the task of reviewing may be

realized, when we say that over fifteen thousand pages, covering fifty-eight Grand Chapters have been read.

"The rituals may differ in cipher, but the esoteric work and the essentials are almost, one might say, universal.

"The total net gain in membership has been such that with a total of 877,413 in the United States and 134,371 in foreign countries gives us the million Companions which we predicted in one of our earlier reports.

"We extend to all our co-labourers our fraternal greetings. After all we are components of one great fraternal organization, whose power for good is of influential importance.

"In closing we quote Austin Dobson:—

"When finis comes, the book we close
And somewhat sadly fancy goes,
With backward step, from stage to stage
Of that accomplished pilgrimage."

Under Alabama he says:—

"Evidently there is some reason, and from our point of view a wholesale suspension of Charters would be in evidence if they followed New Hampshire law.

"Such a wholesale list of suspensions would seem to us to be a laxity of efficient Secretaries."

On the Arkansas spirit he thus comments:—

"The Arkansas delegation to the General Grand Chapter was, as we recall them, a 'live bunch.'"

From the celebrated report on the Committee on Grievances of California we take the two following verses:—

"Then when, at length, they saw the Judges coming,
Officials met them with a pleasant speech;
Happily wined and dined them in the evening,
And gave a pair of milk-white gloves to each.

"Thus did they typify the peace and quiet
Which in their law-abiding City reigned:
And so we of your Grievances Committee
Bear witness that our Chapters all have gained."

Under Canada he speaks of the address of M. Ex. Davis as an admirable one and he speaks favourably of the formation of new Chapters and of the increase of membership by 768. He summarises R. Ex. Comp. George L. Gardiner's fine report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry.

He quotes nearly in full the report on the Order of De Molay, in which he takes much interest, summarising it thus:—

“The Order of De Molay is non-Masonic, and therefore we should not sponsor it.

“A motion to approve without financial assistance was lost, and the original motion was carried. We observe by the above that the Canadian Companions are falling in line with many of the Grand Chapters of the United States.”

Of your correspondent he kindly says:—

“M.E. Ponton was unanimously elected Grand Historian, a most commendable selection, for no other Past Grand Officer of Canada is better qualified than our honoured Companion. He again continues the Report on Correspondence. It is a volume in itself.

“New Hampshire is given five pages from our 1924 report, with abstracts of our reviews from many Grand Chapters. We observe they appear to have been better received by him than perhaps by some of our own Companions. It's an instance of a “Prophet without honour, etc.”

A growing custom of presenting each candidate with the V. of the S.L. is continued in many States in connection with the Order of High Priesthood.

Under Colorado he says:—

“The Order of High Priesthood was conferred on eighteen, the fee being five dollars. This is one of the Grand Councils which presents the candidates with a Bible. We note it is also customary with several others.”

Of the District of Columbia's outstanding Grand High Priest he says:—

“M.E. Fulkerson, in an address of unusual merit, places his hearers on a Capitular ship. He concludes by saying: ‘The sun of my years sets with only rosy reflections at every point of the compass.’

“The autobiography is a gem of wit, for it comes from headquarters.

“His outstanding achievement was the raising of \$12,000 for the Masonic and Eastern Star Home.”

Nearly every Grand Jurisdiction reports favourably the address of M. Ex. Comp. Hubbell, of Florida, from which he makes the following extract:—

“In a day where there is no hope for our civilization except in superior character, godly people should realize that

the cause for which they sing means something besides singing—Courage to live above the average, and ahead of the time.”

Georgia had the privilege of an address from Dr. Kuhn before he died and we heartily agree with our colleague in hoping that his addresses may be gathered together so that they may continue to inspire Royal Arch Masons.

As to the Order of High Priesthood our reviewer says under Illinois:—

“Personally we consider it one of the highest honours, because of its more or less exclusiveness in membership. If it was a degree that anyone as a Companion Royal Arch Mason could attain it would be considered of much value, from its historical and ritualistic interest.”

Of Maine’s comments on his review he says:—

“He says it is an excellent report, with the exception of too little comment. He suggests we give more of our personal opinion on subjects, but as we have said before our personal views are usually of co-operative agreement, so why repeat unless of some innovation in Masonic custom or ruling?”

Of Sir Alfred Robbins’ great address in Massachusetts he says:—

“He conveyed to his hearers the knowledge that under the Supreme Jurisdiction of England are more than 3,900 actual working Lodges, of which over nine hundred are within a radius of ten miles of London, also that usually in connection with each are Chapters. More than 2,300 are in country districts of England, besides seven hundred in Europe, Africa, Asia, New Zealand, India, Australia and parts of America.”

And from his address in Missouri he takes this sentence:—

“You will find on that very quarter the words, ‘In God We Trust.’ The motto of the Grand Lodge of England from 1717, as long as it existed as a separate and independent Grand Lodge, that motto was the same in essence: ‘In the Lord Is Our Trust.’”

He is pleased that a New Hampshire poet gives the text to the Grand High Priest of New Jersey, which he thus reports interestingly:—

“It concludes, however, with the poem of one of our New Hampshire poets, Sam Walter Foss. ‘The House by the Side

of the Road.' We understand the house has recently been marked with a suitable memorial tablet."

Ohio's Home attracts all Jurisdictions by its generous capacity and good work. He says:—

"The home is available to all. There were one hundred and sixteen men and seventy-five women, besides fifty-eight boys and forty-five girls cared for during the year."

Under South Dakota he quotes:—

"I'd like to think when life is done
That I had filled a needed post,
That here and there I'd paid my fare
With more than idle talk and boast;

"I'd like to think that here and there
When I am gone, there shall remain
A happier spot that might have not
Existed had I toiled for gain."

West Virginia gives all reviewers in the United States an opportunity for comment on account of their retaining their claim to confer in addition to the Royal Arch, the Cryptic Degrees. The origin is thus reported:—

"The Grand Chapter of Virginia, in accepting the degrees of Select and Royal Master, changed its constitution and provided for the conferring of these two degrees in the order in which we now confer them; and our rights are, of course, vested in us through the separation from Virginia. Thus the condition remains to this day."

See also Scotland as to this.

Thomas Fellows Clifford, Franklin, Grand High Priest.

Harry Morrison Cheney, Concord, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

M. Ex. Comp. Fred. E. Tilden, Grand High Priest.

Membership, 19,328.

Net gain, 944.

The Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation was convened at Trenton, N.J., May 13, 1925, prayer being

offered by the Grand Chaplain, R. Ex. Comp. and Rev. A. Boylan Fitzgerald.

The next Annual Convocation will be held at Trenton, N.J., May 12, 1926.

Fifteen Past Grand High Priests were present in person linking up past, present and future by their loyal activity.

R. Ex. Comp. Godfrey Pittis as usual faithfully represented Canada. This reviewer has many remembrances of his courtesy.

Many distinguished visitors were received with all the honors and each was addressed in terms of warm cordiality.

Representatives of Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Delaware, New York and Rhode Island, and the General Grand High Priest himself accompanied by Ex. Comp. Henry DeWitt Hamilton and M. Ex. Comp. Arthur D. Prince, rallied to the call of this central and neighborly Jurisdiction of New Jersey.

Under that part of the Grand High Priest's address which referred to the loss of many dear Companions, with special reference to M. Ex. Comp. McGill, who was in active touch with us all for so many years, the Grand High Priest quoted:—

“Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to bloom;
But thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death.”

“Who hath not learned in hours of faith
The Trust (to blood and flesh unknown)
That life is ever lord of death
And love can never lose its own.

In a manly and straightforward manner the Grand High Priest deals with a condition which he found existing and with regard to which he makes a firm pronouncement as follows:—

“I am compelled to refer to an incident which was brought to my attention at one of the District Grand Chapters of Instruction which I attended last fall, that quite a number of the officers of various Chapters comprising that District were absent, attending a reception and dance given by one of the organizations claiming to be a collateral branch of Masonry. There was no question in my mind that these officers needed

the instruction which they would have received on that occasion, and I cannot too severely condemn their action in absenting themselves from this meeting in order that they might devote the evening to pleasure. The evening in question had been selected for the District Grand Chapter of Instruction in June.

"It was, also, somewhat of a surprise to me that the organization which gave the reception and dance should have selected a date so well advertised as that of the District Grand Chapter of Instruction, knowing that it would be liable to attract some of the Companions from the meeting in question. Ritual work is not all there is to Masonry, but it is a means to an end, and its perfection is therefore desirable in order that we may suitably impress candidates with the truths which we seek to impart. I advert to this subject, because the action of these officers, in remaining away from the District Grand Chapter of Instruction, evidenced very little respect or consideration for either the requirements of the Grand Chapter, the efforts of their District Deputy, who worked hard and unceasingly to impart this work for their benefit, their respective Chapters, and last, but not least, for the good of Royal Arch Masonry."

It needs one of backbone to warn against a further recurrence of a similar honey-combing of the integral rights and dignity of Grand Chapter.

Among the invitations he received he comments on one as follows:—

"I received a very cordial invitation from Mr. Albert Schurr, Potentate of Salaam Temple A.A.O.N.M.S., to participate in the ceremonies attendant upon laying the cornerstone of Salaam Temple at Newark, N.J., on Friday afternoon, March 27th, 1925. I advised him that it was not possible for us to attend as a Grand Chapter, but that as many of us as possible would avail ourselves of this kind invitation and attend in our capacity as members of Symbolic Lodges."

Of monthly bulletins and the privacy of names of applicants he says:—

"The question of including in the monthly bulletins of our subordinate Chapters the names of petitioners to be voted upon, should, I think, receive our serious consideration. It does not seem proper to print such matters in our bulletins, and it would be manifestly unfair to a candidate should he be rejected, to have this information become public property, and I should therefore recommend that the Grand Chapter adopt a rule prohibiting the publication of such information."

He thus illustrates his poetic ideas:—

"The official life of the Grand Chapter has brought me into close communion with the Companions of this, as well as those of Sister Grand Jurisdictions, and the association thus had will ever be treasured as among the most delightful of my Masonic experience, for they are indeed redolent with the fragrance of choice memories,

"Like the sweet sound,
That breathes upon a bank of violets,
Stealing and giving odour."

With regard to general conditions he brings home to us some thoughtful lessons:—

"In many of the monthly bulletins issued by our subordinate Chapters is found a pitiful plea to the members to give support and encouragement to their officers by attendance at Convocations. What is the reason for non-attendance? Why the lack of interest? How much of it is due to lack of knowledge as to what Masonry is, and what it is all about? What attempt is being made by our Chapters to reach and interest the ninety per cent. of their membership who do not attend its Convocations? The answer to these queries may disclose the solution of this problem. Education of our membership in the Symbolisms of Free Masonry and particularly of the Royal Arch would give all our Companions a clearer conception of the obligations, ideals and aspirations of Masonry, and the duty enjoined thereby to God, our country, and our fellowman. The interpretation of that duty is clearly indicated in the scriptural passage so familiar to all Royal Arch Masons: 'I will bring the blind by a way that they know not; I will lead them in paths they have not known; I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.'

"Go put your creed into your deed,
Nor speak a double tongue."

The report of the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers made this special reference to the late Dr. Peter McGill:—

"When I entered this room and saw the empty chair of my dear departed friend—your friend—your councillor—Dr. Peter McGill—as I came down the street in the old town of Trenton I saw a sign over the door of a building which said—carved in marble—these words, 'Service before self,' and, my Companions, that typified the life of Peter McGill. He was a man whose friendship was worth having, he was a man that made life's path just a little bit easier for all of those who met him, he was a Companion who would turn a sob into a song, he would take a little of the sunlight and

bring it into the homes of unhappiness, he was a man who would plant the flower of affection in the barren soil of unhappiness and desolation. He has left us. He is gone."

And the General Grand High Priest, J. Albert Blake, in his address to Grand Chapter as a distinguished visitor, said of Comp. McGill:—

"His very name brings a response from the heart. If it was some other name, why, you might not think of it, but Peter McGill, it is so easy and so typical of the man who has done such valuable service, not only within the confines of your Grand Chapter, but outside. I can recall him as rendering valuable services in Portland."

The address of the General Grand High Priest had much of interest including the following:—

"It is true that for various reasons we have the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter and Grand Council and Grand Commandery, etc., but it is the same heart that beats to the music of that which is for the welfare of Freemasonry no matter what you call yourself, and which for the time being, it is, of course, necessary to have these divisions of the organizations in order to bring out all the delightful truths of Freemasonry and its lessons.

"I am glad to be here to-day in the flesh and greet you as co-workers in this great object, and this great institution and its lessons which we have so near to our hearts, and if any of you should happen to come to Boston, I don't care who you are or what your name is—that is of little account—you, Brother Mason, or Chapter Mason—I want you to come in the Masonic Temple and give me a call. You know, we old gentlemen do love to get a little attention from you younger men; it helps us along—helps us over the rugged path, so come in and see me and I will give you the best welcome I can."

M. Ex. Comp. Darrow said truly and forcibly:—

"It would almost seem to me that we are passing now through a period of hysteria, and seem to be trying to cure all our social ills, old and new, by a mass of laws, regulations, ordinances, societies, committees or commissions. No nation has more laws; no nation making them so rapidly, and the number and total of our municipal 'thou shalt nots,' as well as our State and nation, run into millions of words. They seem to be aimed at the symptoms rather than at the cause, and I sometimes wonder if we do not forget that character cannot be enacted by Congress or decreed by the General Assembly, and we ought to get back to the fundamental principle that character can best be built up in the home by the parent, in the school, in the church, and that it

can best be helped to be created by associations like our Masonic Fraternity. We cannot build character by legislation."

Grand High Priest Birmingham of New York made an excellent address from which we can make only the following excerpts:—

"It is that faith and confidence which will accomplish by intelligent co-operation and direction the ends which we aspire to reach, and has been, I believe, the bulwark of our strength during the centuries that have passed, and will be used as guideposts in our future deliberations and activities, and it is, my Companions, the strongest element which unites us to-day, not only in our work in the Craft, but in our work at large in the world. As I said before, I regard this and similar Grand Bodies as educational institutions. To us has been entrusted the publication of these great ideals. We are, so to speak, each individual Companion here, a trustee of the Craft—a trustee and a custodian of all those great ideals for which this great Institution stands."

From the report of the Committee on Necrology we take the following gracious tribute to the memory of a great man and loyal friend:—

"Companion McGill was modest in his personality; charitable in every department of life, more especially where he could give the rich stores of his medical knowledge and skill; beloved equally by the Craft and profane; an exemplary citizen; a genuine patriot, having served his country by the practise of his profession in more than one war; of most agreeable and affable personality and a delightful and entertaining Companion."

M. Ex. Comp. Leon presented a P.G.M. jewel to M. Ex. Comp. Tilden in an original way which is worth reproducing:—

"The Grand Chapter of New Jersey is insistent that the hearts that beat under a jewel such as this are firm and loyal to our Institution, and we are firmly convinced, Most Excellent Sir, that in placing the jewel over your heart that under it beats the heart of a real, red-blooded Royal Arch Mason of such as the Grand Jurisdiction of this State is so rich, and I present to you this jewel with the greatest affection of the officers and members of the Grand Chapter that it may not only adorn you, but may it bring to your mind years hence, as the eve of life is approaching, that here in the Grand Chapter of New Jersey when among the Companions of the Royal Craft, you have made friends and companions second to none."

A portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn among the In Memoriam pages is altogether the most excellent one we have seen, and many other portraits of distinguished Companions adorn the volume and vividly preserve their memory.

In Canada R. Ex. Comp. Kenneth J. Dunstan represents New Jersey.

The Order of Grand High Priests is an especially vigorous organization in New Jersey and listened to many excellent addresses.

The Chairman of the Correspondence Committee is R. Ex. Comp. and Rev. A. Boylan Fitzgerald who thus indicates his method and desire. He writes an able review:—

“The following review is in no sense of the word to be an exhaustive criticism of the Proceedings, but simply the culling out of the multiplicity of actions the ones which we feel may have some interest for the Craft in New Jersey.”

Among the decisions under Alabama he quotes, but we must respectfully query the judgment:—

“Another question was, could a Chapter be opened with less than nine of its own Companions and the adopted answer was that ‘no Chapter can be opened unless nine of its own members are present.’”

Canada of both 1924, 1925 is well reviewed. He says:—

“In the opening of the Grand Z.’s address, we are much impressed with the following paragraph, which we quote for the purpose of passing it on to others:—

“‘No argument is needed to convince a Companion, who is awake to his obligations, that Royal Arch Masonry has some higher and nobler mission than the mere conferring of degrees.’”

“Companion Ponton, as Chairman of Foreign Correspondence, has reviewed the Proceedings of many of the Jurisdictions, but New Jersey did not arrive for review.

“Time is not far off when organizations, such as the Masonic Fraternity, will have to stand for something tangible in the plan of humanity or fall by the wayside.”

Under Canada 1925 he speaks of the numerous visitors, including Comp. Evans and Comp. Eckhardt of the Sovereign Grand Priory.

As in most great Jurisdictions he speaks of the Grand Representatives whose presence is emphasized by nearly all Grand High Priests and reviewers.

He thus adds comment:—

“With satisfaction we note the large amount expended for benevolence and the recommendation that \$3,040 be spent next year for that purpose.

“In many of the Chapters the dues are being made high enough to meet the demands of the year’s expense. Attention is called to the fact that the actual strength of a Chapter should be computed upon the basis of its members in good standing.

“The Grand First Principal expresses himself as opposed to street parades in capitular regalia for any purpose whatever. Going to church comes under the ban.

“Companion W. N. Ponton, our friend of a number of years, has made the review of Foreign Proceedings. It is in the usual and brilliant scholarly way in which he always does his work. He has reviewed all the Proceedings coming to him and he gives about seven pages to New Jersey and writes at length and very brotherly about several things.”

We thank him for his appreciation.

To those States who have representatives on the list of promotion in General Grand Chapter he offers his congratulations under Indiana in the following words:—

“Gladly do we extend our felicitations to the Grand Chapter of Indiana in that they have been honored by the General Grand Chapter in advancing their distinguished Companion, Leon T. Leach, to the office of General Grand Scribe of the General Grand Chapter. May there be no impotency to hinder his enjoyment of his honor.”

He quotes as a most interesting foreword from the Fraternal Correspondence of North Dakota as follows:—

“At the risk of being termed a disturber of the usual order of things, or a radical making an effort to reform a condition of long standing and thereby upsetting the customary order of progression which has become firmly established, I am going to raise my voice to support and advocate the abolition of promotion in the line. After long and careful study of the situation as it exists, I have come to the conclusion that I have too long delayed mentioning the subject. The condition has existed long enough to draw the fire of

criticism from anyone interested in the best development of Masonic leadership of whatever name, term or title."

Under Washington he makes a pertinent inquiry thus:—

"Masonry is becoming top-heavy. All eyes are focused on the superstructure and the foundation is neglected. It is up to us to put new life—not activity—new life and interest into the Blue Lodge, else the whole structure is going to suffer. This condition, Brethren, is a serious one and therefore I have made haste to bring the subject first before you."

Is it thus in our Jurisdiction?

Frank C. Sayrs, Camden, Grand High Priest.

Abram A. Reger, Somerville, Grand Secretary.

NEW MEXICO.

John M. Bowman, M. Ex. Grand High Priest

Total membership, 1,973

Net gain, 68.

The handsome and alert features of M. Ex. Comp. Bowman adorn the frontispiece of the Proceedings.

The twenty-seventh Annual Convocation was held in Silver City, February 19, 1925.

The next annual Convocation will be held at Roswell, February 18, 1926.

Four Past Grand High Priests reported for duty.

In his address the Grand High Priest says truly:—

"How faithfully and well we have carried those great ideals and truths to the welfare and happiness of humanity, is the thought that searches the depths of our souls every time a new milestone appears and calls us to a fresh start.

This age has a distinct challenge for Masonry, in the fact that one of the really great, grave problems it presents is one that has its only solution in the quality of the men who determine its social, political and economic life. The man of to-morrow, whose decisions will make for devastating wars or constructive peace, is in the making today! It is our privilege to help determine his type. Our great task is that of forging the bonds of union in a brotherhood spirit that will draw and hold men together whatever

may come to pass. Science, commerce and education *must* be saturated with "Peace on earth, good will towards men."

He pays a worthy tribute to deceased Companions. His message on the death of M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn of the General High Chapter is concentrated and satisfying:—

"In the death of General Grand High Priest Kuhn, humanity has lost a most useful citizen, and Masonry, particularly Capitular Masonry, the foremost exponent of the true principles of the Order, who earnestly and eloquently taught the practical Freemasonry of Service; that the keystone of life is service, and that he who lives to serve has found the Long Lost Word, and is qualified to receive it."

The usual business was transacted in a business-like way.

The revision of the Constitution and By-laws was directed in order to harmonize with that of the General Grand Chapter.

The new officers were duly installed.

The personnel of the various chapters and also a list of officers from the inception of the Grand Chapter adds to the value of the volume.

There is no Correspondence Report.

Franklin P. Kilburn, Clayton, Grand High Priest.

Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque, Grand Secretary.

NEW SOUTH WALES, 1923.

M. Ex. Comp. Aubrey Halloran, Grand Z.

A quarterly meeting was held at Sydney, 14th February, 1923, with the Grand Representatives of many other Jurisdictions present.

The Grand Z. makes this recommendation:—

"I recommended for the consideration of Grand Chapter the desirability of having a Foreign Correspondence Committee, to be elected annually, and whose duty should be to provide similar reports to those of the other Grand Chapters of the world. These reports are always useful and interesting to students of Royal Arch Masonry, and will keep us in touch with the doings of other Grand Chapters."

The Grand Inspector of Workings reports an interesting lecture on the "Banners."

A Quarterly Convocation was held in Sydney, 9th May, 1923, with a large attendance. The Grand Z. delivered an address composed largely of an account of his visitations, including Grand Installation at Melbourne as to which he says:—

"We took the opportunity of discussing many matters of interest to the Royal Arch Masons in Australia, and it is hoped that Interstate visits may be more frequent, as I believe they will do much good."

Under his Obituary tributes he quotes:—

"Sleep on, dear friend, such lives as thine,
Have not been lived in vain,
But shed an influence, rare, divine,
On those that here remain."

Quarterly Convocation was held at Sydney, 8th August, 1923, many Grand Representatives being present. This enactment was passed:—

"A Committee on Foreign Correspondence shall be elected annually at the Convocation in August. Such Committee to consist of five members of Grand Chapter, who shall write and publish in the Annual Reports all such approved information in respect to other Grand Chapters as may be of interest and instructive to Royal Arch Masons in general and this Grand Jurisdiction in particular."

From the Grand Principal's address we take the following:—

"Our numbers are increasing, and our Companions are continuing the noble work of their predecessors, and are helping to maintain the principles which our Order has always taught, Reverence for God, and the duty of practicing Good-will to men.

"The visitations to the country districts have been restricted during this term, owing to the very cold weather that has prevailed."

(Note the date, August 8th.)

Quarterly Convocation was held at Sydney, 14th November, 1923.

Fraternal Correspondence from Canada and other Jurisdictions is acknowledged.

R. Ex. Comp. W. H. Tudhope represents New South Wales in Canada, and R. Ex. Comp. J. McCreadie represents Canada in New South Wales.

The Foreign Correspondence shows in its initial stages considerable vigour, but we cannot as members of a great Fraternity approve of the Committee's jibes at Scotland. Such phrases as "to lay its cuckoo egg" and "stir up strife" and "arrogant arguments" are surely not quite the words that we would expect from a young Grand Chapter expecting to find favour among men of good will. We doubt very much if Scotland is ostracized in the manner that New South Wales thinks. We rather prefer to believe that the concluding sentence of the report breathes a more seemly spirit of Fraternity which is thus expressed:—

"Wherever their fate, fortune, or business may take them, Royal Arch Masons will rejoice to know and realize that though we belong to many different Constitutions, we are members of the same family, having one hope, one righteous purpose, and one solemn aim, fraternity among men, and reverence for the one Sacred name."

A summary of the Annual Proceedings of various Grand Chapters shows an ability in selection which is indeed praise-worthy. We quote some sentences:—

"What period should elapse between a M.M.'s rising and his application for admission to various degrees of Capitular Masonry? The Grand Chapter of Massachusetts requires three months, those of Ireland and Florida six months, while the following insist upon a twelve month probation: Idaho, New Hampshire and North Dakota. Nebraska Grand Chapter lays down the necessity of a candidate having attended 12 meetings. Illinois requires familiarity with Lodge procedure before the application for higher degrees is lodged."

This legend is quoted:—

"For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind."

"Says the Grand High Priest of North Carolina: 'Masonry stands for progress, and is the enemy of ignorance.'"

"M.E. Comp. Chrisman, of Texas, urges eloquently that history, ancient, mediaeval and modern, discloses the fact that Masonry has ever been the promoter of education, disseminator of knowledge and understanding, the handmaid of

virtue, protector of home, defender of religion, preserver of the Bible. It is given to the support of widows and helpless orphans. Royal Arch Masonry is a search for truth. It deals with immortal souls and eternal facts. The old Bible is being rediscovered by the heart of Freemasonry, and is being studied more and more, and by the greatest minds."

"I live for those who love me,
For those who know me true;
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And awaits my spirit too;
For the cause that needs assistance,
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that I may do."

As to extraneous bodies the Review says:—

"The Grand Z. of Canada issues such a warning, whilst the Vermont Grand Chapter draws attention to 'new excrescences on the body of Masonry springing up daily.'

"Missouri prohibits indulgence in the fragrant weed during Degree work in Chapter room. Smoking being unknown in any Lodge rooms in New South Wales, the above prohibition strikes a New South Welshman as at least strange, and incongruous.

"Many American Chapters appear to be quite liberal in their donations in support of schools, orphanages and homes. Kentucky Grand Chapter voted, in 1922, \$116,000 to its Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home; North Carolina voted \$1,000 to cause of higher education. The children in the schools to-day should receive the best of opportunities for their future welfare and advancement free from foreign intrigue and bigoted sectarianism, which it is possible for us, as free-born, law-loving and law-abiding Americans, to provide.

"Far away Texas, where Buffalo Bill is rumoured to have played his part, has not forgotten to establish an 'Aged Masons' Home of Arlington.' How does the Grand Chapter of New South Wales compare with these charitable and ennobling efforts of our Yankee Companions? After years of plenty then years of famine. Great wars drive men in Masonry. Save the present earnings for the inevitable rainy day."

The following conclusion as a summary of statistics of membership is the result of an industrious Companion's labours in which English members are estimated at 250,000, British Grand Lodges number 676,653, British Grand Chapters 52,186. The total of British and United States Grand Lodges 3,404,328, the total of Grand Chapters 836,646.

NEW SOUTH WALES, 1924.

M. Ex. Comp. Aubrey Halloran, Grand Z.

Quarterly Convocation was held in Sydney, 13th February, 1924.

The Grand First Principal says that the year has begun with happy auspices and steady progress has been made.

The Grand Inspector of Workings reports a busy season throughout the thirteen Districts.

The following clause was added to the Constitution:—

“A brother who has been expelled from Freemasonry by the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons shall, on the recommendation of the Grand Committee, be expelled from companionship in the degree of the Holy Royal Arch.”

A Quarterly Convocation was held in Sydney, 14th May, 1924, and from the Grand First Principal's address we quote:—

“The quarter just ended has been a busy one both for myself and the Grand Chapter Officers. The country Chapters are receiving more attention, and they deserve it. They work under great difficulty, and we frequently hear of Companions residing over sixty miles from their Chapter, and yet attending regularly.”

The interchange of Fraternal Correspondence with Canada is mentioned.

Quarterly Convocation was held in Sydney, 13th August, 1924. The Grand First Principal mentions with other experiences the following:—

“At the banquet which followed, the visitors were much impressed with the earnest speeches of the Companions, whose zeal for Royal Arch Masonry will certainly be shown in the progress of the Chapter.”

Quarterly Convocation was held at Sydney, 12th November, 1924.

The difference in climatic conditions between those under the Southern Cross and ourselves is well illustrated by the fact mentioned in one of the Re-

ports of a journey on the 17th of November to Tamworth, and he reports as follows:—

“There was a good attendance of members, although harvesting is just getting into active work, which speaks well for the enthusiastic support accorded to the Chapter.”

M. Ex. Comp. H. Montgomerie Hamilton was elected Grand First Principal Z.

A Special Convocation was held in Sydney, 29th November, 1924.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence say that they have reviewed the Proceedings of more than fifty Grand Chapters, but Canada is not among them. In their introduction they speak thus of the future of Masonry:—

“Lest we forget, it is frequently observed in the Foreign Correspondence of the American Chapters that “the future of Masonry lies not alone in the increase of members, but in the dissemination of Masonic principles throughout the world.

“The Grand High Priest of Columbia considers it a blessing beyond compare if something could be done to divide the large Chapters all over the United States of America.”

Under Ireland the land of contrasts—no longer the “Emigrant” Isle—this true comment is made:—

“In the ease and comfort and freedom we enjoy in our favoured land, we must think with admiration of the steadfast courage and perseverance of our Royal Arch Companions in Ireland in their labours to uphold loyalty, right and the spirit of brotherhood in a land where intolerance and prejudice are rife; with close on 1,000 Chapters paying their dues, holding their meetings (many of them holding six stated meetings annually) and boldly carrying the banner of Royal Arch Freemasonry in what is a more or less hostile country, we realize that faithful service and assiduity must eventually be triumphant and that the day will soon dawn in Ireland when freedom, both individual and religious, will prevail. So mote it be.”

Manitoba for 1924 gives opportunities for quotation and comment and the reviewer, whose initials are S.M.I.B., says with regard to what Scottish Masons call “harmony”:—

“The remarks of the Grand Superintendent, John Parten, are worthy of note. I have very settled ideas in regard to our so-called fourth degree, i.e., the entertainment after the meeting. I believe Masonry teaches us to work for the

best in everything, and it too often happens that we get perhaps not the worst, but certainly some very poor diversion, downstairs. To me it seems rather like sacrilege to hear our beautiful ceremonies, and to follow them by listening to some comic or absurd stunt, which might be well enjoyed in a vaudeville theatre, but certainly not in connection with a Masonic function. I believe that in the long run if the Chapters will arrange for entertainment committees, who will endeavour to obtain musical numbers of real merit, and an occasional address on some subject which will be an elevation to the mind, not necessarily on a Masonic subject, that this will be more conducive to larger attendance than entertainment of the so-called popular variety, but which is often below the mentality of the average Mason."

This extract is made from the address of the Grand Chaplain of New York:—

"Well, I wonder how many of you have lighted upon the passage in the Book of Ezekiel, that weirdly picturesque prophet from whom we quote once or twice in our Capitular Work, where he says: 'Make a chain, for the land is full of bloody crime, and the city is full of violence.' Yes, these very words, 'Make a chain.' Verily then there should be no finer influence than the influence of our pure and firmly welded companionship. 'The chain thereof is already made.' It is a chain of loyal hands and loyal hearts symbolizing unity and strength and love."

And this from the address of M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn in South Carolina:—

"It is said that Freemasonry is a progressive science, yet I have been surprised, in some Grand Jurisdictions, how retrogressive some Masons are. To them the habit, the custom of doing and saying the same thing for years, has become a sacred fetish which they worship and call an Ancient Landmark. There are but two distinctive Landmarks in Freemasonry, and without them Freemasonry ceases to exist. They are a belief in the one living and true God, and in immortality. All others are matters of legislation.

"He who does square work, who is prepared for every moral duty that is placed upon him, who is master of himself, who has erected a temple by the plumb line and rule of moral rectitude, who has felt the Divine Presence in his soul, would seem to be within touch of that which is lost, to know and to interpret it. Is it possible to pass through such a course of discipline and study and fail to find that which is lost? Yes, an unconscious selfishness may mar it all, only to end in failure. The end product, the real fruit of an intellectual life, is altruism, unselfishness."

Under a rapid but pertinent review of other Proceedings the reviewers gather other worthy material, among which are the following:—

“Nevada pertinently points out that one branch of Masonry sets aside thousands to assist young people in gaining an education—something tangible. Another maintains homes for the needy—something definite. A third has established hospitals for crippled children who may secure, without price or money, the best medical and surgical attention science can offer; no question of colour or creed—something practical. DeMolay for Boys is taking the country like wild fire—Grand Chapter after Grand Chapter going sponsor for the movement.

“Several Grand Chapters, considering the body as extraneous and un-Masonic, give the society the cold shoulder. New York says: ‘Let them equip their own quarters.’

“For education Oklahoma voted \$10,900 for three years; and England reported two of its Masonic students graduating as B.A. What a service is being rendered by our American R.A. Companions!

“This idea of service for others is further exemplified by the erection and maintenance of Masonic Homes for orphans and aged Masons. It is thus our American Companions practise practical charity.

“Then again we find on reading these enlightening and interesting reports issued under the authority of the several Grand Chapters that the building and support of Masonic hospitals is not neglected. North Carolina believes in ‘making life a joy, and not a living misery. Bedoers not dreamers,’ and demonstrates its love.

“It is strange to us in New South Wales to learn that Massachusetts has banned smoking in Chapter rooms during working of ceremonials. New South Wales treats the Lodge room as a sacred edifice, and no brother would even think of smoking in our Lodge rooms. America is the home of big men and big things.”

We regret to see that our Companions still display what we think is unreasonable animosity towards Scotland and accuse the Scottish Grand Chapter of creating discord by opening eight new Chapters, which speaks well for Scotland and its magnetic attractiveness, and also by referring to the Antipodes as “so persistently and unrighteously annoyed by these absurd claims of Scotland.”

The following general note is worthy of quotation:—

"The practice followed by many Grand Chapters in America of recording the names of officers and members of each Chapter renders the reports voluminous. If, however, each member realizes thereby that he is a unit of the great Masonic structure the practice amply justifies itself."

M. Ex. Comp. H. Montgomerie Hamilton, Grand First Principal Z.

R. Ex. Comp. D. R. Hutchison, Sydney, Grand Scribe E.

NEW YORK.

M. Ex. Comp. Frederick L. Dutcher, Grand High Priest.

Membership, 69,906.

Net increase, 2,380.

The One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Convocation of Grand Chapter convened in the Masonic Temple on the spot where they have met for over 100 years, in Albany, February 3, 1925.

Thirteen Past Grand High Priests as permanent members of Grand Chapter were, as usual, faithful in their active attendance.

Canada was represented by our genial friend and Companion, Edward F. Rolle.

The Grand Chaplain, R. Ex. Comp. Buchanan, gave at the altar a prayer which set the note to the transactions of the meeting and from it we reproduce this part of the invocation:—

"Lord, Thou has been our dwelling place in all generations. Therefore, to whom turn we but to Thee, the great and ineffable Name. Lord, we beseech Thee to increase our faith in Thy power and wisdom and love, which, while enhancing our finite knowledge, means so much to us of peace and poise and courage amidst the tests of life. Lord, we beseech Thee to increase our faith in the unimpeachable principles of our Royal Craft, which has helped so many of us to live as God's gentlemen. Also, increase our faith in ourselves and in one another, so that we may go through life with a splendid confidence, marching breast forward, and so that we may be courteous, kind and chivalrous."

The Grand Representatives were introduced by M. Ex. Comp. Briggs, P.G.H.P., who said:—

"Our Grand Representatives, sometimes called the diplomatic corps. Most civilized and well regulated governments have ambassadors at the capitals of their government. We have a different arrangement. We have our own Companions representing the sister Jurisdictions. We have them from the Gulf to the Great Lakes, from Ocean to Ocean, and even across the seas. During the last year we have added three or four more stars to our firmament. We have Scotland back with us. The Scotch has come back."

The Grand Representative of New South Wales responded, saying:—

"Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the group of Grand Representatives here assembled forms but a very small unit in your very large Masonic family. Nevertheless, this unit has its distinct Masonic function in forming a connecting link and fraternal bond between this Grand Chapter and our sister Grand Chapters throughout the world."

Then began a wonderful procession of invited guests from many Jurisdictions, including the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, our friend, the Honourable Jerome L. Cheney, Supreme Council Thirty-third Degree Masons, Scottish Rite, and following them in rapid succession Michigan, Canada (Edwin Smith), Delaware, New Jersey, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and finally the General Grand High Priest, John Albert Blake in whose hands the Gavel of Grand Chapter was placed. In his response he said:—

"The General Grand Chapter of the United States, you know all about. Why should I go into that? It is a wonderful body. The question has been asked, what is it good for? What is its function? Well, if it only had the privilege of calling together once in three years the delegations from the States of the Union and allowing them to get together, with the touch of elbows, with the exchange of their feelings and its expressions, why then it would have done its work, because no man can attend such a Convocation as that and meet with such good fellows and men of sense, if you please, dignified men, without benefit."

The address of the Grand High Priest was, as was to be expected, good in substance and in form. With regard to the late lamented General Grand High Priest he says:—

"Companion Kuhn was a man of faith and vision. These lines, written by him only a few days before his death, form a fitting conclusion to this tribute:—

"'Royal Arch Masonry has a faith that reaches within the veil; a faith that knows no death; a faith that sets a bright star; that sings Hallelujah; a faith that would permit us to say:—

'Say not good night, but in some fairer clime,
Bid me good morning.'"

He emphasized under the Constitution the importance of the Order of High Priesthood. He provided for the removing of the disability of eight elected and installed High Priests by holding special conventions in their home towns.

He welcomed Manitoba and Saskatchewan within the fold and says:—

"When the Grand Chapter Officers of the Grand Jurisdictions of this Great Republic and of that vast Dominion to the North know and address each other intimately and affectionately by their given names, we may rest assured that the spirit of Freemasonry is abroad in the land and all is well within the Craft."

Of his visit to Toronto in 1924 he thus writes:—

"On February 26th and 27th, 1924, I attended the Grand Chapter of Canada, at Toronto, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. Washington A. Russell, Grand King; R. Ex. Comp. Charles Hammel, Grand Scribe, and R. Ex. Comp. Samuel S. Forster, Grand Captain of the Host. There were present representatives from many of the Grand Jurisdictions from this country and from Provinces in Canada. We were most cordially received and hospitably entertained from the time of our arrival until our departure."

He speaks of the present spacious quarters as being too crowded and a search is being made for more commodious ones to keep pace with the growth of this great Grand Chapter. He thus records his year of service:—

"It has been a most enjoyable year and arduous year, and I hope and trust a profitable year for this Grand Chapter, as a whole, each constituent Chapter here represented and each Companion Royal Arch Mason throughout this Grand Jurisdiction."

The Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address thus conclude:—

"The Grand Chapter of New York is a great Jurisdiction. It is growing rapidly, and its activities are many and various. It is to be congratulated that it has been able to secure for its executive staff men of such ability, who are willing to devote the time necessary to the performance of their duties, with no hope of fee or reward, other than the consciousness of a duty well done."

Five hundred dollars were donated for the relief of distressed tubercular Royal Arch Masons and their dependents, and of this \$150 were allocated for use at Saranac. The Committee also reported favorably upon the plan to provide a Hospital for the treatment of tubercular Craftsmen in co-operation with the Grand Lodge.

From the Committee on Rituals we take this paragraph:—

"Your Committee has omitted from the Obligation of the revised degree any reference to the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, as being in agreement with the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of 1859 and 1924."

And in this connection M. Ex. Comp. Willard T. Chevalier gave a special and personal report in characteristic and striking language:—

"Let me say in this connection that I have rarely enjoyed the privilege of serving on a Committee whose members have been so whole heartedly devoted to a splendid purpose. At no time has there been any inclination on the part of anyone to ride a personal hobby or to promote peculiar ideas of any description. Your Committee has labored single mindedly to accomplish one definite purpose, the strengthening of Royal Arch Masonry, the better to perform its mission in the world to-day. In order to make sure that this course could be adhered to, we first agreed upon certain clear-cut objectives, and every proposed revision has been made to square with some of these objectives before it was even considered by the Committee."

The revised Degree of Royal Arch Masons was then exemplified with our friend and Brother J. William Prouse, of Buffalo, as High Priest, and other well known Grand Chapter Masons filling the other offices.

The anointed High Priests held their usual meeting and also their wonderful social evening to-

gether, of which many pleasant memories are retained by this reviewer.

This clause was added to the Constitution:—

“Not more than two degrees shall be conferred at the same Convocation. At least one week must elapse between the conferring of the degree of Most Excellent Master and that of Royal Arch Mason.”

Under Memorials of the Dead the Grand Chaplain presented a touching report from which the following extracts will prove inspiring:—

“Companions, as we mourn to-day the loss of those who have passed to ‘that other life we blindly christen death,’ we are not, I trust, mourning unwisely or faithlessly. We are not sorrowing as others, which have no hope. For are we not persuaded that the companionship of true hearts is no transitory experience, but an abiding experience? There is no breaking of the chain. It is of God’s fashioning and in God’s keeping, and ‘where will God be absent?’

“Yes, ‘which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil.’

“And so, ‘*sursum corda*’—‘Let us lift up our hearts!’”

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by that most genial and clear-cut of Companions, M. Ex. Companion Arthur Warren, who has established himself at the Round Table in a place all his own, his personality shining through his reviews.

Under Arkansas we read:—

“However, it is not the space taken in either report that counts, as he will agree, but the fraternal spirit that goes with the review and in each case he will agree that the spirit is of the best. He has acquired the art of condensing what he says in limited space, which is a splendid style to cultivate.”

Canada appreciates his kindly reference. He says:—

“The Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Canada are before us for review. This Grand Jurisdiction, with its wonderful empire of territory, seems to be losing ground from the constant invasion of its territory by enthusiastic Jurisdictions who have commendably determined that they are strong enough to ‘go it alone,’ and are encouraged in their firm resolutions by the unanimous consent and encouragement of the Mother Grand Chapter to set them up in housekeeping in a good old-fashioned way.

"Two vital and courageous Jurisdictions have made such a splendid determination during the last year and have obtained the consent and God-speed of the Grand Chapter of Canada in their resolutions and have obtained their dowry and the maternal blessing. We, of course refer to the Grand Chapters of Manitoba and Saskatchewan."

He quotes, as so many reviewers do, from the address of Controller Cameron in welcoming Grand Chapter as follows:—

"I take it that the explanation is that the fraternal principle which is its essential characteristic commends itself to men in general, so that they voluntarily seek affiliation with it in order that they may meet together and enjoy fraternal intercourse without regard to those things that divide men into groups and parties, without regard to wealth or absence of wealth, without regard to position, without regard to political parties, without regard to ecclesiastical affiliations, and even without regard to international boundary lines."

Of the Grand Superintendents he thus speaks:—

"We cannot speak with too much commendation of the reports of the Grand Superintendents contained in the Proceedings."

He refers to the wonderful aggregation of visiting Companions from New York and other Jurisdictions, and of this reviewer he is kind enough to say:—

"We are glad to welcome our esteemed Companion, William N. Ponton, who now takes up the work of reviewing the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters as Fraternal Correspondent. We have had a wonderfully pleasant acquaintance with him for a number of years, and it was to be expected that he would write interestingly and intelligently in his reviews. We were not disappointed."

Good wishes and good appreciation are most heartily reciprocated with our neighbors.

Under District of Columbia we read:—

"Roe Fulkerson is much too clever to take any chances in the persons whom he selects to do a good job, and acting upon that principle, he personally chose and 'hand-picked' his successor as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, naming to that position M. Ex. Comp. W. W. Jermaine, who has very delightfully held the position since it was surrendered to him by Roe. He is an accomplished writer and reviews the Proceedings of the several Jurisdictions in a splendid style. Each of his reviews is readable from start to finish."

From the Illinois reviewer we take this extract:—

“Companion Ferrin deplored ‘a growing tendency to set at naught the example of our ancient Brethren, wherein we are taught to reverence the Sabbath day and keep it holy.’ He reported a popular custom of holding picnics and outings ‘under the subterfuge of some club having the sanction of a Royal Arch Chapter,’ and said:—

“‘The character of advertising sent out by some of these clubs would be more appropriate for a one-ring circus, or for an old-time beer garden picnic, than for a Masonic function, or anything pertaining to Masonry.’”

To read a good story with a pungent point as told by M. Ex. Comp. Dutcher read the Proceedings of New Jersey.

For graphically descriptive language these two sentences from Utah have caught the attention of Comp. Warren, and now let us grip them ourselves:—

“We shall show you greener pastures in which to lie than the shepherds of old found along the bottom lands of the Tigris and Euphrates. We shall ask you to lift your eyes to the everlasting peaks of our great Wasatch range, and drink the sparkling water distilled there by the sunbeams, and where nature keeps it stored up in the attic of the universe above contamination by disease.

“You shall gaze upon the magic waters of the great inland sea, where nothing sinks but sorrow, and behind its western shore nearly three hundred days a year the tender hues of the golden sunset sink lower and lower as the twilight hushes the day to its gentle close.”

Comp. Eggleston’s review of Virginia has attracted the attention not merely of ourselves, but of New York, and Comp. Warren thus comments and quotes from his reference to the death of Past Grand High Priest Lang of Wisconsin:—

“Severely wounded in battle of Cold Harbor, June 3rd, 1864, discharged as Corporal, August, 1864. He then comments as follows: ‘Not personally as we know of, but collectively, we must have met him, in one or more of those heroic battles, and may have been responsible for one of his wounds, but we heartily say peace to his gallant soul.’

“Companion Eggleston still shows a touch of the martial spirit that is still in his heart and shows the same animation in writing his reviews of the Grand Jurisdictions.”

The conclusion of the review is worthy, and we clip the following paragraph:—

“Scotland, through her supreme ruler of Royal Arch Masonry, has made a commendable and highly praiseworthy effort to quiet the differences between that Grand Jurisdiction and other Jurisdictions, and the Earl of Cassillis has given evidence of his sinceriey by making a journey through the entire Capitular world to bring all Grand Jurisdictions in which a lack of harmony exists into complete fraternal relations, and we have no doubt that his courtesy, tact and self-sacrifice will at last fully prevail and that we shall have the blessing of enjoying a united and harmonious world-wide union of Royal Arch Masonry everywhere.”

We wish that space permitted to copy whole pages of the address of the Grand Chaplain upon “A Study in Rediscoveries.” We have only room for the following:—

“You will recollect, then, that in the ritual of the Most Sublime Degree a certain group representing three of our ‘ancient Brethren’ make certain ‘important discoveries’ which are of the nature of re-discoveries. . . . The re-discovery of these things was a feature of the Return from the Captivity, and their being ‘brought to light’ again was largely responsible for the new courage and the new ambition which came into the life of the people at that time.

“Well, it seems to me that you and I, and all Royal Arch Masons, should be making similar discoveries to-day, and precisely along such lines. It will be to our own advantage and uplift and to the advantage and uplift of all whose lives our lives may touch, as well as to the Glory of God, if we will, ‘make diligent search’ and see if we may not re-discover for ourselves these three things and be re-inspired by them: the Word of God and the Power of God and the Choices of God.

“ ‘This I ask Thee, tell it to me truly, Lord!
Who, benignant, made the darkness and the light?
Who, benignant, sleep and waking did create?
Who the morning, noon and evening did decree
As reminders, to the wise, of duty’s call.’

“Yes, as Joyce Kilmer has it in his familiar lines, and how staggeringly true it is, if it is also beautifully true,

“ ‘Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.’

“ ‘There’s a corner in God’s Vineyard—
’Tis for thee;
And the Master says, “My servant,
Work for me.”

There's a talent in thy keeping—
Oh! with prayer
Use the gift thy Lord hath given
To thy care.' ”

M. Ex. Comp. F. W. Harcourt represents New York near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

M. Ex. Comp. John F. Birmingham, New York, Grand High Priest.

M. Ex. Comp. Charles C. Hunt, New York, Grand Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND.

M. Ex. Comp. S. S. Allen, Grand Z.

R. Ex. Comp. G. Russell, Depute Grand Z.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was held in the Hinemoa Masonic Temple, Wellington, 4th February, 1925.

Eight Past First Grand Principals responded to the call of duty.

The Grand Z. was unavoidably absent owing to the illness of his son, and a vote of sympathy and hope was passed and transmitted to him.

The report of the Supreme Committee thus begins with dignity and precision:—

“The Chairman and members of Supreme Committee tender to Royal Arch Chapters on the Roll of Grand Chapter, and to members of Grand Chapter their fraternal greetings, and submit below a précis of the position of Royal Arch Masonry in the territory at the termination of this, the thirty-third year, in the life of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand.”

The appointment of V. Ex. Comp. John A. Cowan, of Toronto, as the Representative of New Zealand was confirmed.

With regard to the next place of meeting chosen as at Invercargill, somewhat at a distance, it is said:—

“They had to bear in mind other aspects of the question, and have due regard for the beneficial influence which resulted from the holding of Convocations in different centres.”

A consideration which also influences Canada.

At the installation of Officers it is truly said:—

“The attendance of Royal Arch Companions was large, and the temple in which the proceedings were held added much to the dignity of the occasion.”

The First Grand Principal Elect of New Zealand delivers an inaugural address and from it we get the following thoughts and information:—

“I am not an orator, and I feel that I belong to a great body of Masonic workers who have to maintain your confidence with deeds, not words. Masonry is worthy of our best, and if we give it our best efforts we shall be well repaid.

“In this Dominion there are about 25,000 members of the Craft Lodges, and out of these only about 4,000 belong to the Royal Arch. I recognize the fact that only the best members should be received into our Chapters, but I think that if our Companions would occasionally speak about their Chapter at their Lodge meeting, our membership would grow at a greater rate.”

There is no Correspondence Report.

M. Ex. Comp. George Russell, First Grand Principal Z.

R. Ex. Comp. C. W. Nielsen, Grand Scribe E.

NORTH CAROLINA.

E. Rowley Hampton, M.E., Grand High Priest.

Membership, 8,133.

Net gain, 10.

The Seventy-seventh Annual Conclave of the Grand Chapter was held in the city of Gastonia, May 12th, 1925. Ten Past Grand High Priests testified their loyal allegiance by personal presence in the East.

Representatives from South Carolina and Massachusetts were received with honours. Canada's representative was not present.

The Grand High Priest reported that owing to sickness he had to relax his efforts, but appears to have accomplished much during his year of office.

He refused dispensation to allow a Chapter to hold a special Convocation for the purpose of receiving petitions, and also one to act on a petition which

had been received by the Secretary immediately after a regular Convocation, and had been in his hands for four weeks.

The following paragraph is of interest as showing the trend of legislation in many of the Jurisdictions of the United States:—

“The resolution passed at the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter held in Raleigh, which went into effect January 1st, 1925, plainly states that a candidate in petitioning for the higher degrees must be a Blue Lodge Mason six months, or show proficiency in all three Blue Lodge degrees and present a certificate from the Secretary of his Blue Lodge showing that he is either one of the two before his petition for the chapter can be entertained.”

The Grand High Priest pays a well merited tribute to the great work of Comp. Andrews in the following words:—

“It is no need for me to tell you, Companions, that our lovable Comp. Alexander B. Andrews was also recognized and placed on the important committee on Royal Arch Educational Bureau. We see that he is recognized, not only by this Grand Chapter for his activities along this particular line, but by this august body, for which we are grateful.”

With regard to development along the line of “more light,” he quotes Dr. Kuhn as follows:—

“‘Without the Royal Arch, the Master’s Degree is like a song half sung; a tale partly told, or a promise unfulfilled,’ and I would like to see this Grand Chapter, at this time, take some further action whereby we can encourage our Master Masons to seek further light without this handicap.”

With regard to the educational work he further says:—

“This great and important work, which is being carried on under the direction of various Masonic Bodies, through the untiring efforts of Past Grand High Priest, A. B. Andrews, who has given freely of his time and substance, that we now have an educational fund of \$25,000 in twenty-two different colleges throughout the State, whereby worthy students can be given assistance, rendered at a time, which no doubt will carry them through the crisis; that we can look back over this time and see what good has been accomplished.”

From the Report of the Committee on Necrology we take these verses:—

"It is not death to die,
To leave the weary road,
And, midst the brotherhood on high
To be at home with God.

"It is not death to fling
Aside this sinful dust,
And rise on strong, exulting wing
To live among the just."

Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter each appropriate \$3,000 annually for the Educational Loan Fund, or to the Chapters a per capita assessment of 37½c. per member.

Robert W. Brennan, of Toronto, represents North Carolina in Canada, and Canada is represented by Wiley M. Pickens, of Salisbury.

The Correspondence Report is by M.E. Comp. J. Edward Allen, who employs an experienced pen.

With regard to reviews he has decided opinions and thus expressed himself:—

"There is another small group of books which did not fail to reach us, but which we felt constrained to refrain from reviewing within the compass of these pages. This group is from those Grand Chapters which do not themselves think it wise or worth while to print Reviews of other jurisdictions. We do not desire to suggest to any of these that their policy is a mistaken one, since it is not our function to offer advice to other Grand Chapters. But when these intimate that they do not wish to enter into the interchange of ideas known as 'Foreign Correspondence,' we shall not fail to be governed by that implication of policy, by thrusting upon them our side of a 'correspondence' which is not reciprocal. We hope ere long all will join the 'round table;' there are indications pointing somewhat in that direction. One subdivision of this last group is composed of the Grand Chapters of the British Isles, whose pamphlets are so organized as to be exceedingly difficult of review.

"We have chosen for quotation or comment, that which would appear to be worth the while. We hope the Companions of the Reviewers' Guild will bear this in mind. Such of what may appear to be criticism as they may find, will be understood as a comparison of the customary North Carolina way of thinking with that of another Grand Chapter. One is always the recipient of benefit from such a comparison properly contemplated."

An unusual and very graceful compliment is paid by our confrère to his wife who collaborates with him:—

“As heretofore, this writer acknowledges the painstaking assistance of Mrs. Allen, both direct and indirect. The Reviewer’s wife deserves double sympathy; she not only must needs endure as does the Reviewer, but she must endure the Reviewer as well. Many a time and oft, she foregoes the desire for conversation, while he is seen to be absorbed in the things that happened in some unknown place months ago. For all that one does, the price of sacrifice must be paid.”

He speaks highly of General Grand Chapter, saying that the Rulers combine “solidarity with tactful decision.”

Among other incidents he mentions the following:—

“When the matter of lending moral support to the Rainbow Order was before the General Grand Chapter, we suspect that it was in as good hands as could be found, being those of Walter L. Stockwell, of North Dakota; but, with never a word spoken of criticism, it was voted not to sponsor the Order.”

He quotes freely from the eulogy of the late Dr. Kuhn, pronounced by Dr. Briggs, of which the following may be taken as the key note:—

“Like Faraday, he never had time to make money, but his life went into the building of manhood. You have read his writings; they are scattered all over our land. They are all uplifting and ennobling in their influence.

“What made him great? What gave him the commanding influence which he had in Missouri and throughout our land? It was the definiteness and strength of his faith in the great fundamental principles of our Order in all its branches.”

And he then proceeds to reproduce and record for the benefit of all Companions several extracts from Dr. Kuhn’s numerous addresses and papers. These should be preserved. Space only permits the following:—

“It has been my observation that if you wish to know the conditions of Royal Arch Masons in a jurisdiction, and what the Companions are thinking about, feel the Royal Arch pulse as found in the boys who work in the trenches, the boys who make the Grand Jurisdiction—I mean the High Priests, Kings and Scribes—and you will find a strong, progressive

and aggressive pulse beat. The discovery will astonish and surprise you. Do not feel the pulse of the official line officers. They are the shut-up people and have no pulse.

"I find the Royal Arch Masons are satiated and saturated with the husks of ceremonial work and the babbling of the Ritual. They want to be taught and the sorry part of it is there are so few teachers and real lecturers. Men are hungry for information and are looking for some organization that will open the avenues for study and for moral and intellectual growth."

"Every day we may give ourselves in friendship, to those
we meet,
The clasp of our hands, the smiles of our lips, the service
of willing feet;
However small it may seem to us, it may help some soul
to live,
If we mould our lives on Peter's rule, "Such as I have, I
give."

"We are searching for truth, the Master's Word, and this search is evolutionary, constantly rising to a higher and better conception. This is well illustrated in the conception of Jehovah from that of Abraham down to the time of Christ. Every prophet took an advanced step in conception of Deity and the Tribal God of Moses became the Father Omnipotent and loving to all who worshipped him.

"Freemasonry is a great school in which every Freemason, if he desires may educate himself. He will not only be a historian, but a Bible student. If he is a reader, he will find the foot prints of Freemasonry in all history in the Arts and Sciences.

"The key-stone of the Royal Arch should bear upon it, 'I serve.' Service, self-sacrifice, should be the battle cry of Freemasonry. And he who does not wish to serve or sacrifice will never discover the Master's Word."

Of California's Grand High Priest he says:—

"He records that in these visitations, 'were it not for the strengthening influences of Capitular Masonry, he would have been killed with kindness.'

Canada comes in for more than ordinary attention, no less than eight full pages being devoted to a review of our Proceedings of 1924. He comments on Controller Cameron's excellent address of welcome and upon Grand Z. Spencer's paragraphs on the Law of Forgiveness and of Co-operation, and says further:—

"The time is not far distant when organizations such as ours will have to stand for something tangible in the plan of humanity or fall by the wayside.

"To our way of thinking, this seems to apply to the entire Royal Arch world. We need something like this to prevent stagnation.

"The New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and other nearby Grand Officers like to attend the Canadian Annuals, which is an evidence of very good taste."

The address of M.E. Comp. Core, of Pennsylvania, struck him as it struck us, as being full of meat, and he quotes and comments thus:—

"It is not a matter of government; it is a matter of individual responsibility, and that is what is taught us in Freemasonry, from the E. P. degree up. The individual's obligation is: 'I will do so and so;' not the Lodge or the Chapter will promise to do so and so. It is individual responsibility that is emphasized and not the class liability that is spoken of.

"These Companions are careful about what they say: for they know it is going to be printed and will get back to the home folks."

He is kind enough to give encouraging words to this correspondent, and as what is said of him is said of Canada, modesty permits me to quote:—

"There is one document in the book that's of paramount interest. It is not necessary to make this statement when one is told that it is from the pen of Comp. Ponton. It is the Report on Capitular Masonry. It covers a wide range of subjects."

He gives his Companions several of our sentences, among them the following:—

"The world moves, new conditions arise. New occasions teach new and broader duties. 'They must upward still and onward who would keep abreast of truth.' So let this representative Grand Chapter, full of dynamic penetrativeness, fling forth its fiat to the fraternal forces of the constituent Chapters, gird up your loins, to do, not dream; serve, not swerve; work, not shirk."

And quotes the conclusion of the Report on the Condition of Masonry in full. Humorously he cites the speech of then R.W., now Most Worshipful Bro. Rowland, at the luncheon, and calls it "scandalous"—scandalous in a Pickwickian sense. It is in part as follows:—

"But there is one thing for which I wish to thank Most Excellent Companion Ponton. When he introduced the Grand Master and myself he ascribed to him the parentage of 100,000 Masons in the Province, and excepted me from all credit for that feat. I thank him for that; it protected my reputation and held out hopes for the future. When that time comes I shall require some of your elixir of youth.

"A copy of this ought to be sent to his wife; and the result noted."

Of the incoming Grand Z., M. Ex. Comp. Davis, he says:—

"He is said to have one chief indoor recreation, this being Masonry; he seems to belong to about all there is of this except the Grotto and the Sciots."

And on Canada's Correspondence Review he makes these kind comments:—

"The Fraternal Correspondence is another production of the facile and fertile pen of Comp. William N. Ponton, which is sufficient guarantee of its high quality.

"Of this scribe, he says that Scotland 'furnishes him food for thought.' We confess that this is not an exaggerated statement; much of our pondering, if not all, however, is purely vicarious."

Under Indiana our reviewer says:—

"From his decisions, we note that the Indiana law provides for 'automatic' suspension of those who have been suspended by lodges, and for the same procedure when restored. We think this might just as well be done by Chapters everywhere, for the sake of comity with Symbolic Lodges."

Under Pennsylvania he says:—

"Masonic 'discipline' is much more rigid than it is in many others of the Grand Jurisdictions."

Quebec always gives reviewers food for thought and we cite these comments:—

"There is a Report of the Special Committee on Ritual, from which we note a recommendation that the Past Master's Degree be eliminated, which was adopted. Though this may sound quite strange to us of the States, it is in line with the most of the British Jurisdictions; and we do not have any information to enable us to know how Quebec ever acquired the Past Master's Degree at any time.

"Comp E. D. T. Chambers is one of the veteran Reporters. Think of writing the Foreign Correspondence Report for the

thirty-seventh time! And it is a most excellent one, written with vigour and in most interesting style."

As to printing and distributing correspondence reviews he says:—

"We suggest that the extra copies be then stapled together and presented to the Companions at the Annual Convocation. The evidence shows unmistakeably that these are read more widely than those which are bound with the Proceedings in the conventional way and at some future time distributed to the Chapters."

From South Dakota he gets this satisfying verse:—

"I'd like to think that here and there
When I am gone, there shall remain
A happier spot that might have not
Existed had I toiled for gain;
That some one's cheery voice and smile
Shall prove that I had been worth while;
That I had paid with something fine
My debt to God for life divine."

From Vermont this one:—

"Evil is impotent,
Sorrow a dream,
God is omnipotent,
Love is supreme."

His statistical tables compiled with great care give us the following:—

Percentage of membership gain in Grand Chapter, Louisiana, leads with 12.64%.

The average of the whole United States being 4.28.

The percentage of Master Masons that are Royal Arch Masons is as follows:—Rhode Island the highest, 55.1%.

The whole of the United States averaging 29.8%.

Rhode Island has also the largest average number of members per Chapter, namely, 545 the United States average being 225.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation will be held in Wilmington, May, 1926.

James W. Payne, Salisbury, Grand High Priest.

John B. Griggs, Elizabeth City, Grand Secretary.

NORTH DAKOTA.

John A. Graham, Grand High Priest.

Membership, 4,168.

Net gain, 10.

Opposite the excellent portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Graham is a page of biography written by a master hand in which we are introduced to the presiding officer in the following words:—

“The subject of this sketch is still just on the sunny side of forty. He is therefore strictly in the young men’s class, though judging by what he has done and the responsibilities he had borne, he cannot be called a youth. He is a real man, upstanding, keen minded, and effective.”

The Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Bismarck, January 20th, 1925.

Comp. Moulden, G.S.E., Manitoba, was received with honours. One verse of “God Save the King” was sung and the Union Jack was displayed along side the Stars and Stripes,—a generous recognition of neighbourly nationality.

The Grand Commander of Knights Templar was presented at the altar, and eight Past Grand High Priests reported for duty.

Grand High Priest Graham in his address said:—

“One year ago the Head of this Grand Body in making his annual address, having full knowledge of the condition of the Subordinate Chapters gathered by personal contact with all of them saw fit to say that in several places in the State he found ‘almost impenetrable gloom.’ That his efforts did much to bring hope to those who sat in darkness we are well aware, and yet the first eight months of the year 1924, probably following the old saying that it is always darkest before the dawn, were decidedly discouraging. With the advent of the Crop Season and a plentiful harvest in our good State conditions in the Subordinate Chapters began to mend and at present we find a spirit of optimism and accomplishment pervading our Chapters and work in Capitular Masonry is bound to profit thereby.”

The Students’ Loan Fund is commended and such favourable conditions reported that no need of any addition to the capital was required.

On the journey to the General Grand Chapter at Portland, our Companions of North Dakota took the

picturesque St. Lawrence waterway through Montreal and the 1,000 Islands and were delighted with the beauty of their itinerary. This is the verdict of all our friends from the United States who take the Canadian route to Europe from Montreal by that noble river which the Indians denominate "Master of Life."

Interchanges of visits with the Manitoba Companions are frequent.

The Grand Secretary's report is as was to be expected, clear as a bell. He accounts for the small increase as follows:—

"The annual returns were received practically on time, and have been checked up and found substantially correct. The net gain for the year is 10, the smallest in many years, but when we consider that the period of financial stress rather culminated in this year, it is not strange that it shows itself most in this year."

He was intimately associated with the late Dr. Kuhn, and says:—

"We enjoyed his friendship in an unbounded measure, and when Dr. Kuhn was your friend, it was no half-hearted friendship. He was a great man, a good man, and a sturdy man. He had strong convictions and he did not hesitate to express them vigorously. Even those with whom he differed most widely respected him."

The roll of Grand Representatives was called and they were welcomed in these worthy words:—

"As we welcome you we cannot help but see through all the turmoil of strife, and darkness of the world, the conscious solidarity of the race. The surface may indicate disruption; but beneath we can see the binding quality of those ideas which unite into one common band. Through you we see men from every quarter and clime of this globe—from north into the great Canadian territory; from east into the mother lands of Europe; to the great southland of far off continents; and through the length and breadth of our own land. Geographical lines, arbitrary boundaries, or natural features may divide us into states, and countries and empires, but so long as the principles taught at the altar before which you stand are maintained by our constituencies at large, so long will brotherhood continue."

Unfortunately our Grand Representative was not present.

R. Ex. Comp. George L. Gardiner represents North Dakota in Canada, and R. Ex. Comp. George H. Keyes represents Canada in North Dakota.

The three chief Officers of the General Grand Chapter 1924-1927 are John Albert Blake, Boston, Grand High Priest; Henry DeWitt Hamilton, Deputy Grand High Priest, New York C. A. Conover, Grand Secretary, Coldwater, Michigan.

Fraternal Correspondence is as heretofore in the veteran hands of M. Ex. Comp. E. George Guthrie of Fargo, whose introduction is vigorous and interesting.

He is the right kind and we are glad that he does not hide his light under a bushel:—

“Upon my first introduction to the reportorial field a decade ago, I said that I should hide my egotism, until I found my standing. Now I am of the opinion that I dare expose that egotism if I care to, so I say that I am satisfied that I have produced that which is worth reading, as an investment of your time against mine, before it is consigned to oblivion by way of the waste basket.

“Are you interesting yourselves in encouraging the correspondents of the Grand Chapter whose representatives you may be by giving them a word of hope and cheer whereby they may know that you appreciate their efforts to diffuse light, or are you just letting them carry on the best way they can, denying the word that would make their work a pleasure and cost you scarcely an effort.

“I conjure you to assist heartily in spreading this gospel of smiles and laughter, and prophesy that you will be agreeably astonished at your reward, down in your own heart.

“I think I belong to that group of Masons who believe that by putting mental effort into a thing, whatever it may be, some extra mental quality can be brought out. In other words, out of some effort expended, much effort will result. By spending ourselves freely, we build permanently. If we know ourselves as others know us and do not permit our vision to become cloudy, our progress will be onward and upward to further and greater light.”

Of the outstanding Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia, he says:—

“In the introduction of his cheering report, Grand High Priest Fulkerson likens his years of service to a voyage, during which nothing remarkable occurred except ‘the chilling icebergs of indifference.’”

Florida's Grand Correspondent receives this human greeting:—

"Then comes the most interesting part of the volume, unless we except the address of the Grand High Priest, which is compiled by the same author, namely the findings of the searcher for Capitular information. This is his eighth contribution to the Craft, and his best. It is as rich and luscious as an alligator pear pie, such as the writer has eaten and enjoyed."

His foreword gives us the following:—

"The ability to collate the instructive and interesting and omit the non-essentials is as difficult now as it has been at any time. We greatly enjoy the necessary study and preparation and if we have succeeded in imparting some of the inspiration we have gathered on our mystic travels we feel repaid for all the time and labour bestowed."

Under Maine he gives us his views on "hail and farewell":—

"Now that is all right in its way, but I like a 'How dye do' in the morning, and a cheery 'See you again' in the evening. The comparison may be taken as the Alpha and Omega of a Correspondence Review."

Virginia always gives us something to link up with, and of Comp. Eggleston, he says:—

"His clever running comment in his review of every Jurisdiction is always pleasing, but at times he seems to long for a fight, or at least a continuation of the argument, but nevertheless he is a lovable old soldier in the ranks of the human kind.

"My dear Companion has two pet hobbies which interest him, and keep his blood in circulation; the determination to keep out of the General Grand Chapter is one, and a negative recognition of the DeMolay is the other."

Canada is treated kindly and encouragingly. He makes extracts from the address of Grand First Principal Spencer, and says:—

"He shook up the delinquent Grand Representatives, and secured resignations from many who have failed to report for duty for a series of years, so several appointments were made to remedy this neglect. He strongly favours the sponsoring of the Order of DeMolay. Then following the reception and introduction of several distinguished visitors in attendance from New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, after which speeches were exchanged and the flow of oratory let loose.

"There is so much food in the report on Capitular Masonry, prepared by that master word painter, Companion Ponton, that it is extremely difficult to make any selection from it in the space allotted to my review, but we reproduce the following as a sample of the inspiring document presented by him:

"'Yet even the Highways of Friendship must be kept in repair. The Ways of Life to Heaven and light must be kept open—the rubbish cleared away by men of thought and men of action. So now as always, in the history of our radiant race and of our comrade-like companionship, there must be no remiss relaxing of effort, no anaemic apathy—no complacent optimism. Still we must obey the old behests. "Be strong, quit you like men." Live up to the standards of manhood under the Standards of the King of Kings. Eternal vigilance is the price of safety.'"

"When we arrive at the Fraternal Correspondent's house we find it occupied by Companion Ponton, who cordially greets his colleagues of the Round Table and bids them welcome. In his 'Little Journeys to the Homes' taken all the way from Alabama to Wyoming, he pays excellent tribute wherever he stopped to visit and refresh himself, and gives full measure in return. We appreciate his treatment of North Dakota, his kindly reference to Grand Secretary Stockwell and the writer being exceedingly gracious. Our thanks are extended him for his approval of our idea of the 'Pickups on the Trail.'"

Following the peripatetic visits, he adds in his usual charming and satisfying way his "Pick Ups Along the Trail."

Under our Schools, he says:—

"Somewhere I read an excellent article on our public schools in which the writer pictured the school as a business, a corporation, in which we are all stockholders. Did you ever stop to think of the school in that light? It seems to me a wonderful idea, for it is just that way. American children will mould the future of the world. Be sure of that. Is it not the most wonderful—the most stupendous enterprise in all the land—this building of the future generation?"

From New Zealand he culls:—

"A trained and disciplined man is of greater value by far to the State than one who is not. He has become capable of co-ordinated effort. He has been taught how to apply his labour and to think and act as a part of the whole community. He has learnt to take broader views."

A whole paragraph of our own Comp. Spencer's address on the Law of Forgiveness is quoted prominently.

From Florida he gives this nugget:—

“Unless Americanism can be made to mean less individualism and more social obligation, as I understand it, the Republic is headed for perilous times.”

Kansas gives him this rallying cry “To Arms Defensive”:—

“Enemies of our government, our free institutions, are on every hand. Disrespect, disregard and contempt for law and constituted authority is appalling, each claiming the right to interpret or to obey the law as may best suit his own convenience. To many, the Constitution of the United States is but ‘a scrap of paper,’ and instructions have lately been issued from a certain country that the red flag must fly over the Capitol of our country instead of our own Stars and Stripes, and the degrading, damning principles and ideals of anarchy and bolshevism be substituted for constitutional government and law. God forbid!”

And Illinois furnishes this fruitful closing:—

“Companions, our main business is to increase the values that are found about us. The world is to be richer in physical values because we have walked the ways of earth. It is to be richer in character because we have passed through this world once. It is to be richer in intellectual strength and in knowledge because we have lived and used our minds. It is to be richer in brotherhood because we have moved about among our fellows. It is to be richer in beauty and love.”

M.E. Comp. William T. Johnston, Fargo, Grand High Priest.

M.E. Comp. Walter L. Stockwell, Fargo, Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Pius Jacob Stephen Otto, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Members, 2,690.

The portrait of the Grand High Priest is as striking as his wonderfully composite name and indicates experience and determination as well as kindness.

The Fifty-sixth Annual Convocation was held in the new Masonic Temple, Halifax, 9th June, 1925. The next Annual Convocation will be held at a time and place decided upon later.

Seven Past Grand High Priests adorned the East.

The Grand High Priest of New Brunswick, William H. Smith, was welcomed and we are told:—

“Later he gave a most interesting address emphasizing the fraternal spirit existing among the Grand Jurisdictions and the extent of Masonry in the world and extended the felicitations of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.”

The Grand High Priest in his address says many things worthy of quotation. These must suffice:—

“To-day we have the pleasure and honour of being the first Grand Body to hold its Annual Meeting in this New Masonic Temple, the pride and joy of our esteemed Brethren of Halifax. They are to be highly congratulated on having obtained that which they have so long desired, a Masonic Temple worthy of this old Historic City, the ‘Warden of the Honour of the North.’ This Temple is not only a delight to the artistic eye but provides every facility for the various Masonic organizations of the city, who will find a home here, in accord with the traditional dignity of Masonry.

“Our especial point of interest in connection with this Masonic Temple to-day will be the placing, with due ceremony, in its position at the entrance to the Chapter Room, the KEYSTONE from King Solomon’s Quarries, presented to this Grand Chapter at our last Annual Convocation by R.E. Companion R. V. Harris.

“I welcome most heartily the Companions assembled here to-day representing not only Nova Scotia but those from Newfoundland and from the “Garden of the Gulf.”

In speaking of M. Ex. Comp. John Hay and others who have passed over, he quotes:—

“Toil is done,
Life’s weariness is o’er;
In that land that needs no sun
He hath heard the Master’s greeting,
Welcome my beloved son.’”

“Farewell, Companions, none can fill thy seat
Within the sacred circle of our love—
And so we’ll count thee present when we meet,
And greet thee once again in courts above.”

He urges the holding of reunions in all the Districts as follows:—

“I hope that the various members of the Committee will proceed immediately to the organization of Local Committees for the various reunions, at convenient places, such as Truro, Sydney, Yarmouth and Charlottetown, and that all the Chap-

ters and Preceptories in the Jurisdiction will co-operate in making them a success.

"There can be no doubt but that such reunions will prove a great impetus to the work of all Chapters participating in and be productive of lasting benefits to Royal Arch Masonry in this Jurisdiction."

The new office that of the Grand Archivist was constituted and the following charge is to be added to the Installation ceremony. Of course the veteran historian, R. Ex. Comp. Reginald V. Harris (late Grand King), was appointed to fill the office:—

"It is your duty to compile and preserve the records of our history and supervise similar work in the Subordinate Chapters of the Jurisdiction. It is important that the records of our past history and those of the present time should be transmitted to those who come after us, in order that they may the better appreciate the splendid heritage of our fraternity and be inspired to promote its interest and welfare. You will therefore observe and preserve everything you may discover of value, or which may have the mark of any of the Craft upon it, to the end that nothing be cast away among the rubbish, and that the great and glorious work which we have in hand may be advanced."

M. Ex. Comp. Otto concludes his address with these verses:—

"It's the kindly hearts of the earth that make
 This good old world worth while,
 It's the lips with tender words that wake
 The care-erasing smile.
 And I ask my soul this question when
 My goodly gifts I see;
 Am I a friend to as many men
 As have been good friends to me?
 When my brothers speak a word of praise
 My wavering will to aid,
 I ask if ever their long, long ways
 My words have brighter made.
 And to my heart I bring again
 This eager, earnest plea:
 Make me a friend to as many men
 As are good staunch friends to me."

The Committee on the address thus sums up their characterization of their Chief:—

"The conclusion of the address shows the human side of Grand High Priest as those of his old friends know him,

generous, warm-hearted, zealous and appreciative and your committee commends his execution of trusts confided in him."

Canada's Grand Representative, R. Ex. Comp. George S. Wright, was in attendance.

R. Ex. Comp. Brenton F. Porter, Grand Secretary, deservedly received the rank of Honorary Past Grand King.

Before the keystone from King Solomon's Quarries was placed in position in the new building, a historical address was read, from which we take the following extracts:—

"The Royal Arch degree was conferred in Halifax and Quebec as early as 1760; and from that time onward by various Lodges, both civil and military. In 1780, we find a Chapter established, under the charter of the present day St. Andrew's Lodge, which Chapter has continued without interruption until the present day, and is now known as Royal Union Chapter, No. 1, the oldest Royal Arch Chapter in the Overseas Empire, and possibly in the world, for it is not improbable that the Chapter of 1780, can be traced back to a still earlier date.

"The work of Royal Arch Masonry has gone on for a century and two-thirds, and will go on until the end of time; its work is never completed; there can be no placing of any keystone to bind its last arch and complete the structure, as in buildings made with hands, such as this splendid home of the Craft in Halifax."

Business depression occasions a slight falling off in some of the Chapters.

Several memorial pages and a portrait of the late M. Ex. Comp. Hay show how Nova Scotia remembers her dead.

M. Ex. Comp. George Moore represents Nova Scotia near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Order of High Priesthood was held at different centres throughout the Jurisdiction, and many were anointed.

The Report of Fraternal Correspondence is by Grand Secretary Brenton F. Porter, and he shows a generous and discriminating touch. From his foreword we take the following:—

"If a perusal assists to some realization of the unity of thought in regard to the value of the Capitular degrees, the desire for service and the magnitude of the world-wide

organization of Royal Arch Masonry, then the work entailed in preparing this Report will be fully rewarded."

Of the efforts of Alabama along educational lines he says:—

"Still 'third from the bottom in the list of white illiterates' is enough reason for Alabama Masons to put their shoulders to the wheel in the cause of education. Their first effort was very successful but now they are up against a Legislature which has neglected, wilfully or otherwise, to provide adequate funds, but they are still keeping at this most necessary of all work if intelligent citizenship is to be secured. The sums of \$600.00 and \$400.00 were donated respectively to the Scholarship Fund and Scholarship Loan Fund and \$2,000.00 was given to the Alabama Masonic Home."

Arizona's fidelity to duty is thus commended:—

"A 100 per cent. of represented Chapters is something to be noted in a Grand Jurisdiction such as Arizona and shows there, as it does anywhere else an active interest in Capitular affairs. The Grand High Priest visited every Chapter.

Of M. Ex. Comp. Spencer's address he says under Canada:—

"Every Companion should read it, in his own and other Jurisdictions for the incentive it gives to 'go on, go on, go on. Some bits we can not refrain from quoting:

"'Co-operation he asserts as well as unity and harmony are necessary if our Chapters are to become an influence for good..'

"Here is a last selection from his Address which Royal Arch Masons should read carefully:

"'We must justify and give proofs of our mission. The mere survival of an organization is not irrefutable proof of its value. We were never meant for an ornamental tree.'"

Of R. Ex. Comp. Brown and his successor he kindly speaks thus in commendatory terms:—

"The Grand Chapter of Canada is to be congratulated in that when, much to the regret of his fellow Correspondents, one of the best Reviewers at the Round Table, R.E. Comp. Brown retired, they found a Companion with the Masonic knowledge and facility of expression of M.E. Comp. Ponton to take up the work. He presents a most interesting report."

Connecticut gives our reviewer the following thoughts:—

"Our own personal opinion is this travelling around lessens the dignity and cheapens the degrees. What is worth having is worth striving for."

"It is not a matter of thinking, it is so, according to our Ritual. We cordially agree with him in the hope that the time will come when cool thinking in the Fraternity will lead us to leave *all* outside organizations to their own devices, even those of which we as individuals approve."

The extract which we make from his review of England is interesting and will strike a responsive chord:—

"This appointment to Past Rank means far more in the Grand Chapter of England, than it possibly could here and is not made for the purpose of giving a few more Companions the privilege of a title and regalia but as noted above for 'long and meritorious service.' As all of the Principal Officers hold their positions practically for life there is no opportunity for "long and meritorious service" being rewarded by election to the important offices; hence the value of these appointments to Past Rank. The number of Chapters in London we are told is 380 which seems a large number for one town but that is, London Town."

The distinguished visitors to the Grand Chapter of Iowa were poetically and heartily welcomed in appropriate verse:—

"Who would remain a hermit,
When friendship is so sweet?
Who would eat his bread alone
And make joys less complete;

As iron sharpeneth iron,
So friend makes bright his friend?
Our minds and spirits mingle
Fulfilling life's chief end.

God's plan for our salvation
Is not to stand apart,
Though each may fill his station,
Heart must respond to heart..

So, visitors, we greet you,
Companions one and all;
Enjoy while life remaineth
The blessings that befall."

Canada and Saskatchewan are linked up in the following good tradition:—

"The regulation regarding examination on one degree before being advanced to the next we presume is inherited by them from Canada and a good inheritance it is too.

"The Grand Chapter of Saskatchewan, with its other sister Grand Chapters of the West have a great advantage in being able to start their career with a corps of Companions, who have had experience in the work they are undertaking, under their Mother Grand Chapter of Canada."

Under United States Triennial Convocation we find quoted a dictum of the late Dr. Kuhn which is of interest to us as maintaining the old British nomenclature of rank while Nova Scotia and New Brunswick show the American:—

"It is a strange spectacle for the High Priest who represents the Ecclesiastical powers wearing an emblem of authority while the King who represents the State is made subordinate. This is a Romanistic idea and is un-American. In fact, making the High Priest the presiding officer of a Chapter instead of the King is purely an Americanism."

Pius J. S. Otto, Dartmouth, Grand High Priest.
Brenton F. Porter, Truro, Grand Secretary.

OHIO.

John P. Kuhns, M. Ex. Grand High Priest
Membership, 77,224.
Net gain, 2,476.

The One Hundred and Eighth Annual Convocation was held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Cincinnati, October 1, 1924. The Grand Chapter stood at attention while the Organist played the Star-Spangled Banner and one stanza of "America" was sung.

No less than 15 Past Grand High Priests graced the Grand East with their honored presence.

From the Grand Chaplain's opening invocation the following will appeal to the readers as they must have to his auditors:—

"We thank Thee for our great country. We honor its flag. We admire its institutions. Help us, our Father, intelligently and efficiently to maintain those institutions that have come to us from the fathers and which shall be handed over to our children.

"Help us as we shall meet Thee and meet each other. May our acquaintance develop into friendship of a wholesome kind. And in it all may we honor Thee. And to Thy great name shall be the praise forever. Amen."

The address of welcome to Cincinnati was given by Comp. Charles Tudor (a royal name), the Director of public safety of the City, and his address bristled with humour, as did the reply of M. Ex. Comp. Belt.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address from which we make the following excerpts:—

“We meet here to-day united in a great brotherhood, each on a level with each other, each vying with the other in his fealty to the principles of Freemasonry, by which he is taught to cheerfully obey the laws, and, as a citizen, to defend the free institutions of our beloved country.

“We have endeavoured to uphold the banner and carry forward the work of Capitular Masonry, to the glory of the Great Jehovah, and for the service of our fellowmen.

“At an early Convocation of your respective Chapters, following this Grand Chapter session, a comprehensive statement should be made of our proceedings, and a summary should be given of the activities of the Grand Chapter.

“Keep the proceedings in the Chapter room within easy reach of all Companions.

“Our duties do not alone mean the keeping of certain obligations strictly in the letter and not in the spirit. We must not forget our duty includes that we must carry out the brotherhood idea in its fullest meaning, and that to be attentive is but a means of furthering this idea.”

Of the dead who still speak he says:—

“Each year brings a list of Companions whose labors terrestrial have ceased, and we have been taught to believe that they have passed to a sphere celestial, where the daily tablets of existence, transcribed by the recording angel of Heaven, will be subject to scrutiny for good or ill by One who will judge them righteously.”

Among his rulings is the following:—

“Under the Masonic law of Ohio it is necessary that there be present a constitutional number, with the Holy Bible, square and compasses and a charter of dispensation empowering them to work, and in the absence of any one of these prerequisites a Lodge or Chapter cannot be opened, or work or business transacted therein.

“Will the Grand Chapter grant permission for the use of our Chapter rooms as a meeting place for the Order of De Molay for Boys, which has been organized and is about ready to start its meetings?”

He rules that Grand Chapter cannot authorize the use of Chapter rooms as a meeting place for the Order of De Molay.

In the summary of the General Grand Chapter Proceedings the following is noted and for the benefit of those who have not visited us we may say that the hat is not worn in Canada:—

“The General Grand Chapter approved wearing “Hat” in Royal Arch degree (as in other degrees) in opposition to opinion of General Grand High Priest.”

From the conclusion of the Grand High Priest's address we take the following sentences:—

“Side by side, and shoulder to shoulder, we have striven to serve the cause, and advance the standard of Capitular Masonry.

“And now, Companions, the work of the year is before this Annual Convocation. Let us take up the task thoughtfully and reverently, with a firm reliance upon Divine Providence for guidance and strength.”

The Ohio Masonic Home is largely supported by the Chapter who make special Departments their chief care. The Committee says:—

“The Masonic Fraternity have here an institution worthy of its greatest pride and endeavors—a Home built for the care of the needy and unfortunate—a monument which speaks to the world that the teachings and purposes of Masonry are practical.”

The Report on Necrology is a touching document which deals with the living as well as the dead:

“The chief object of Masonry is not entertainment or recreation, but information and inspiration. Emphasis on our real purpose may make Temple exercises less popular, but more profitable.

“A Mason is not a drifter, but a traveller. He has in mind a destination, and persistently approaches it. A Masonic petition, rightly understood, is a response to the opportunity for cultivating a noble manhood.”

Canada's representative is Comp. Wilden E. Joseph, and Ohio is represented in Canada by the veteran Comp. Hugh A. McKay of Hamilton.

The Order of High Priesthood met also on October 1st. The reports were most encouraging.

Beautiful pictures of the Ohio Masonic Homes, chaste and noble in architecture and equipped with every comfort, adorn the pages of the Proceedings, and a detailed report of each activity in connection therewith makes most interesting and profitable reading, and should be an incentive to us in Canada to go and do likewise.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by M. Ex. Comp. William A. Belt, P.G.H.P., who says in his introduction:—

“We have tried to sift out what would be of interest in viewpoints, different than our own and that which would give a conception of their ways. Many Convocations are so methodical and of so great a sameness that one hardly realizes he has put one down and taken up another.

“It has been a pleasure to make this journey through this world and it is our hope that many will be inclined to go at least part way.”

The reviews of the various Jurisdictions are brief but comprehensive.

California furnishes food for thought:—

“Among several recommendations made, we were struck with one to limit the membership of subordinate Chapters, and it was the general opinion that 300 was large enough and should be the limit, although no legislation was enacted.”

Canada receives full attention and he thus digests our position and the sentiments of the Grand Z.:—

“The four Western Provinces since 1916 have formed into four Grand Chapters and have taken with them 6,331 members; still this Jurisdiction has gained in these past eight years 5,368 members.”

“For the second time, the Grand Z. pleads for the Order of De Molay for Boys, and urges the Chapters to push the work. He asserts ‘our Royal Craft has no real place in the world as it exists to-day.’ ‘Purpose cannot be fulfilled by the mere performance of ceremonies and the recitations of rituals.’ ‘We must give a practical application of our truths and morals in uplifting work.’”

He commends our District meetings as follows:—

“A very commendable plan is carried out in the choosing of Grand Superintendents of the Districts. This is done in

District meetings during a special refreshment called for that purpose."

And generally he approves of our record in the following words:—

"This was indeed a very interesting 'Proceedings' to review. Much was of local moment, but the many speeches were a delight to read."

The report of England is very brief, the main body of it consisting of the following:—

"This Grand Body is different from all others in that its Chapters are 'attached' to some Blue Lodge and derive their membership therefrom. Its component Chapters are scattered in the various parts of the world where no other Jurisdiction exists, especially in India, Japan, South America and Argentine Republic."

He quotes extensively from the great work of the Grand Chapter of Illinois in connection with the Masonic Home and says:—

"The Royal Arch Memorial Hospital on the Masonic Home Ground at Sullivan is now too small, it is found, and an appeal from the Committee of Finance for a special committee to make an investigation, looking forward toward building larger, was approved. They want to provide for 'applicants who are permanently bedridden,' as we in Ohio have just done."

The following exhortation of the Grand Z. of Quebec struck him as it strikes us:—

"Let us continue to keep untarnished the ideals of the Royal Craft, for blessed is the man of high ideals who never lowers his standard or surrenders to defeat, till eye and ear, till vocal chord and tongue, till mind and heart are disciplined and all abilities of mind and soul are marshalled by the will and move onward to the goal of perfection."

We cannot refrain giving some sentences from the conclusion of the review of M. Ex. Comp. Belt:—

"However, it is a good omen, that there was not one Jurisdiction reviewed, that did not show a substantial gain during the past year. Also, that the ratio of gain was very general, showing beyond a doubt that the condition of this branch of the Order is healthy.

"The non-conformity of the Official Titles of Grand Chapter is strange and striking. Some have more qualifying words than others, and the succession is not uniform.

"The General Grand Chapter has decided that giving the obligation in the Royal Arch degree does not constitute exaltation. This is not accomplished until the candidate has received the G. O. R. A. W.

"Helping in the education of children, in various ways, is being undertaken still more systematically by Grand Chapters, more especially in the south.

"It is evident that Capitular Masonry is not going to be content to stand still in the old, old way. But will be flexible enough to adapt itself to the wants of the times."

M. Ex. Comp. Robert E. Lee, Akron, Grand High Priest.

R. Ex. Comp. Edwin Hagenbuch, Urbana, Grand Secretary.

M. Ex. Comp. O. P. Sperra, Ravenna, Foreign Correspondent.

OKLAHOMA.

M. Ex. Comp. Thomas J. Wells, Grand High Priest.

Membership, 14,420.

Net gain, 614.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation assembled at Cushing, April 22, 1925. The next Annual Convocation will be held at Muskogee, April 21, 1926.

Distinguished visitors were received and welcomed. In his address the Grand High Priest says:—

"I trust that our deliberations and findings may be along the most advanced ideas consistent with Ancient Craft Masonry and prove of much and lasting good to the Royal Craft."

What we have often advocated is urged by him in connection with the Library and Museum of valuable records:—

"After a careful investigation of the records and conditions in the office of the Grand Secretary, I desire to renew the recommendations of various predecessors, that steps be taken to perpetuate the accumulation of valuable documents and publications which are the property of the Grand Chapter."

He urges the establishment of a representative Journal in the following words:—

"In fact it is hardly possible to enumerate the benefits to be derived to the Craft by a carefully edited and attractively published periodical."

And concludes:—

To each is given a bag of tools,
A shapeless mass and a book of rules,
And each must make ere life is flown,
A stumbling block or a stepping stone."

The Representative of Canada is Comp. William Noble, who also is the Fraternal Correspondent of Oklahoma. He was duly present.

As in many other Grand Jurisdictions, the Grand Chapter encourages education by making loans to worthy young men and young women, children of deceased Companions. They have made loans to date in the aggregate of \$14,925, and the results are most satisfactory. They report as follows:—

"Twelve are teaching in the schools of our State, three are in the business world and one in the newspaper field. All of these people you can see will exercise a great influence for good in their different positions and the 'bread cast upon the waters will return to us many fold.'"

The Grand Lecturer comments upon the "deplorable losses from suspensions for non-payment of dues, which is perhaps the most serious problem confronting this Grand Chapter."

The Fraternal Dead are not forgotten, as testify the Memorials.

Ex. Comp. Ed. Worth, of Cobourg, represents Oklahoma in Canada.

The Correspondence Report by Major William Noble will be his last as he has received an Army appointment which necessitated his resignation. We part with him as an old friend with regret. From his introduction we take the following, and all through his report we meet with original comments:—

"Our labor has been a labor of love. We like the work and don't stutter in saying so.

"The Radicals and the Reds make war upon all religions, as they have in Germany and Russia, and as religion and Masonry are one in purpose and viewpoint, an attack upon one is an attack upon the other."

He shares with his Companions California's action with regard to preserving historical records.

He also quotes the following:—

“Shall we not confess with the great ‘Franklin.’

“‘God governs in the affairs of men,’ therefore give us real men to govern in the affairs of men, never forgetting that to our hands has been committed the Ark of the people's Covenant, and that it is our duty to shield it from destruction.”

The address of the Grand Z. of Canada, 1924, pleased him greatly as furnishing food for thought, and he cites with approval:—

“That the records of a Chapter which do not tell of some good deed performed, some benevolent act done for the sake of humanity, are but the memories of wasted hours, of vain pretensions, of solemn promises broken, of duty neglected.”

He has this to say about Canada's Correspondent, and I can only express my deep regret that the Proceedings for Oklahoma for 1924 did not reach me. Our confrère says:—

“The Report on Correspondence was written by Companion William N. Ponton, Past Grand Z.; and his maiden attempt, but his first attempt was a good one, except that Oklahoma was left out of his Report, whether by design or oversight, we know not.

“But we welcome him to a seat at the Round Table just the same, and assign him to a seat on our right. And sincerely hope that he will retain his seat at least a quarter of a century, and then some.”

With reference to wholesale Dispensations and so-called cognate Orders, whether considered as barnacles or auxiliaries to Masonry, Companion Noble says under Colorado:—

“But, as a matter of fact, it is a recognized fact that in order to compete with some of the Orders above referred to, and not let all of the Blue Lodge Masons join other Masonic Bodies, to the hurt and detriment of the Chapter, Grand High Priests have had to be liberal with dispensations, but then the law should be changed, making all par and equal, but even then it should be a mooted question as to the advisability of permitting any Master Mason to be initiated in Chapter, Consistory or Grotto until his petition has been thoroughly investigated, and he has been found worthy of further investiture of Masonic Honors and membership.”

Kansas induces this comment:—

“With all due respect to the sentiments expressed by the Grand High Priest and Past Grand High Priests of Kansas, it must be remembered that Masonry is now living in modern times, and that the time for dream theories are of the past, and that we are confronted with present and future actualities and problems, and it behooves Masons of all degrees to sit up and take notice of the passing throng, and as Masons and men, take such interest in worldly affairs as will best promote the welfare of our Government, our homes and firesides, and with the ballot at the polls as an effectual weapon, and with our strength of mind and body, lay on right and left in all worthy causes, that will tend to make and keep the Great Masonic Fraternity an honored and respected Fraternity as now existing. ‘Thems’ our sentiments.”

Under Massachusetts he refers to the welcome accorded Sir Alfred Robbins and adds the following:—

“No labor in a common cause is lost, no service to humanity but brings its own reward, no lofty and high-minded impulse for the betterment of mankind can be other than a beacon light to guide and direct the steps of those stirred by the call to service under the banner of our Order.”

Pennsylvania always furnishes some thought, and this comment is made by Comp. Noble. Smoking, of course, is not permitted in the Lodge rooms or Chapter rooms in Canada:—

“He also thought that smoking in a Chapter room was an unpardonable sin, and commended the Grand High Priest for his emphatic deliverance upon this practice. But smoking goes on just the same, and in some of the affiliated Orders the smoke is so thick as to hardly be cuttable with a knife, therefore we are also ‘forninst’ smoking in Lodge or Chapter, Commandery or Shrine rooms.”

He closes with some real poetry of his own in the following words:—

“Dear friend, I pray thee, if thou wouldst be proving
Thy strong regard for me,
Make me no vows. Lip service is not living;
Let thy faith speak for thee.

I’m sick of words, they are so lightly spoken,
And spoken, are but air.
I’d rather feel thy trust in me unbroken
Than list to words so fair.

"Oh, it's just the little homely things, the 'wont-you-let-me-help-you things' that make our pathway light. And it's just the jolly, joking things, the 'never-mind-the-trouble' things, the laugh-with-me-it's-funny' things, that make the world seem bright. For all the countless famous things, the wondrous record-breaking things, those "never-can-be-equalled' things, that all the papers cite, are not like little human things, the 'every-day-encountered' things, the 'just-because-I-like-you' things, that make us happy quite. So here's to all the little things, the 'done-and-then-its-over' things, those 'oh-it's-simply-nothing' things, that make life worth the fight."

Good luck to Major William Noble wherever his army duties call him.

Charles E. Creager, Muskogee, Grand High Priest.

James A. Scott, Muskogee, Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

H. Wayne Stanard, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 6,951.

Net gain, 41.

After several meetings of Trustees and special Convocations recorded, the Sixty-fifth Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was opened in Masonic Temple, Portland, Oregon, April 13, 1925. Eleven Past Grand High Priests were duly honored.

Canada's representative did not answer roll call.

From the Grand High Priest's address we take this passage which is worthy:—

"Some of you are veterans in the cause. You have attended the Annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter many, many years, and are here again with us to-day, crowned with all the glory that follows a life of service. To you we say, welcome, thrice welcome. Would that some mysterious power could halt the devastations of time, and scatter the gathering shades of evening, that we might have the benefit of your counsel and feel the heart-throb that comes with the clasp-
ing of your hands for many, many years to come.

"Death's but a path that must be trod,
If man would ever pass to God."

He gives in full what is of great importance to the Royal Craft in General, the Treaty of Amity

entered into between the General Grand Chapter and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland. This agreement of reconciliation is a source of great satisfaction.

The following provision is of interest as showing the care with which Oregon and other Jurisdictions require the foundation to be laid:—

“So interpreted, all Chapters of Royal Arch Masons are directed to require that all petitions for degrees of Master Masons raised on or after June 11, 1924, in any Lodge under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, shall have attached to said petition a certificate in proper form showing proficiency of the said applicant in the candidate's lecture of the Master Mason degree, based upon examination in open Lodge.”

Among the decisions of the Grand High Priest is the following:—

“The Grand Chapter of Oregon does not recognize the Mark Master degree as conferred in Scotland, it being conferred in the Blue Lodge. You would, therefore, proceed as though the Brother had never received this degree.”

The Grand Orator's address on “Not Understood” is full of suggestive thought. The tenor of his argument will be best judged from the following extracts:—

“Misunderstandings are responsible for a large part of the world's ills and misery.

“The lack of understanding, failure to appreciate, unwillingness to study and know the other man's view point, his motives, his hopes, his ambitions, the circumstances and conditions under which he acts, not alone disrupts long standing friendships, but families, churches, Lodges, communities, states and nations.

“Why is it that a staunch stand for right is usually misconstrued, criticized and misunderstood? Why is it that if a man launches a drive for community betterment his motives are questioned and his efforts are minimized? Why is it that our great leaders have been not understood?

“Not understood. We gather false impressions
And hug them closer as the years go by,
Till virtues often seem to us transgressions,
And thus men rise and fall, and live and die;
Not understood.

Throughout there is a very human note, and while the stories may detract from our notions of dignity, they are effective in attracting attention.

Grand Secretary M. Ex. Comp. Robinson resigned and he was appointed Honorary Secretary Emeritus, and his salary was continued in generous fashion after 34 years of service. His portrait and biography follow.

Oregon's representative in Canada is Ex. Comp. David A. Clark, of Toronto.

From the introduction of M. Ex. Comp. Walter O. Haines, Grand Correspondent, we gather that he has most outspoken views upon Masonic education and proficiency. This is part of what he says:—

“Then the talk of giving the Mason a chance to become proficient. Proficient in what? In his ability to learn the answers to a few questions so he can repeat such answers in open Lodge? Is that proficiency? What about the great underlying principles of Masonry? Not one Lodge in a hundred is even trying to teach a candidate anything beyond the ritual, and yet the Master Mason must stay in the Blue Lodge some months becoming proficient? by absorption, probably, before he can apply for further degrees.”

In reviewing Canada he was greatly struck with the address of welcome of Controller Cameron in Toronto, and he quotes largely from his excellent speech, among the paragraphs the following:—

“That the influence of your Society is altogether for good cannot be denied, and so the Chief Magistrate of a City may well receive any of its Convocations with open arms. Its influence is more effective than treaties and world courts and Leagues of Nations, very excellent though those instrumentalities are beyond any doubt.”

Of our report on Condition of Masonry he speaks favourably and makes extracts, among them:—

“Clear air gives clear thought, and attractive environment will be a magnetic lure to secure the attendance of those who love comfortable and congenial surroundings as well as attractive grace in action.”

Of our Correspondence Review he kindly says, and in addition he quotes in full our whole “conclusion”:—

"The report of Fraternal Correspondence is the work of Companion Ponton. We expect something especially good from our gifted Companion and are not disappointed. His quotations are well chosen and his comments frequent."

Under Colorado he comments:—

"And now another is to be added to this list—an order for girls as the De Molay is for boys. Where will it end?"

Under Missouri he reproduces Ex. Comp. Sir Alfred Robbins' speech in full as something that all Royal Arch Masons ought to cherish.

Under Vermont and Connecticut he quotes:—

"It hardly seems right to this Scribe that either Chapter or Lodge should sponsor any Order with the real or apparent purpose of using it as a feeder for Masonry."

And he thus concludes with these words of admonition to us as members of the Round Table:—

"We would welcome more comment on the various Proceedings. We feel that through such comment we are able to gain much information as to the views of the Correspondents, enabling us to judge better of the value of many matters under consideration."

The next Annual Convocation will be held at Astoria, April 12, 1926.

John K. Kollock, Portland, Grand High Priest.
D. Rufus Cheney, Portland, Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA.

M. Ex. Comp. John M. Core, Grand High Priest.
Membership, 59,117.

The familiar features of Comp. Core are well known and welcome to all Canadian Companions who have had the privilege of meeting him at Grand Chapters.

A Quarterly Communication was held in Philadelphia March 6, 1924. Seven Past Grand High Priests were present, which is the average number at all Philadelphia gatherings, and our own Grand Representative, Comp. Samuel Shaw, was faithfully present at every meeting.

There are ten Chapters with a membership of over 1,000 in Pennsylvania says the genial Secretary, Joseph E. Quinby, in his comprehensive report.

A Quarterly Communication was held June 5, 1924.

A High Priest having failed to perform the duties of his office, the Most Excellent by virtue of the power and authority in him vested did suspend the Companion from the office and directed the King to take charge of the warrant of constitution of said Chapter and perform the duties of the office of High Priest.

Pennsylvania's Grand Officers speak with no uncertain sound.

A Quarterly Communication was held September 4, 1924.

After a default by reason of which a warrant was automatically suspended for failure to pay dues and fees within the required time a satisfactory explanation was given and they were placed in good standing. The report contains this final sentence:—

They went away very happy, and I felt that while it was a bitter punishment, at the same time they have learned their lesson."

The death of the late M. Ex. Comp. William B. Meredith was universally deplored and we in Canada who have had the privilege of his personal friendship and also from year to year of reading his kindly review of our Jurisdiction join in sympathetic mourning.

M. Ex. Comp. George B. Wells, Past Grand High Priest, prepared and read the In Memoriam, a beautiful tribute from which we take the following sentences:—

"Who and what manner of man was this whose passing on commanded such willing tribute, such attestation of appreciation of his life and labors, his standing and service? It is writ in records to be read by all that he was William Boling Meredith.

"The lessons of our Capitular system were to him living virtues and the term Companion a reality and not a mere identification tag. He wove into the woof of his life the spirit of Charity so eloquently exploited in the Mark degree,

esteemed it a privilege to impart Masonic wisdom to Brethren uninformed, delighted in forging bonds that bound in fraternity good men and true, who lacking the Masonic cloak might never have discovered each the other's worth.

"Those who were so fortunate as to have close relationship with him are bound to proclaim him as simply a good all around man's man who played the game, believed in God, in Freemasonry and in his fellow man, and translated his faith into works.

"Father of All, accept our thanks for our priceless heritage of happy memories of thy servant, our leader, counsellor, friend and Companion, William B. Meredith, Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest."

A Quarterly Communication was held December 4th, 1924, with a very large attendance, when the ruling Grand Officers of Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut New Jersey, Michigan, Canada, Delaware, West Virginia and Rhode Island were all welcomed in fitting form, truly a galaxy of representative men of the Royal Craft from all parts of the compass.

Of M. Ex. Comp. Hibbert P. John it is feelingly said:—

"Not only did Companion John endear himself to his Brethren and friends by reason of a charming personality, but he exemplified throughout his many years of Masonic activity the cardinal virtues of the society he loved by faithfully performing and religiously fulfilling every solemn and sacred obligation assumed."

At the Annual Communication held at Philadelphia, December 27, 1924, many past and present Grand Officers foregathered.

From the able and searching address of M. Ex. Comp. Core we take a few paragraphs:—

"We are strengthened by the interchange of fraternal visits by Grand Officers. The day of isolation by Grand Bodies is rapidly passing and soon, we trust, will be only a memory never to return."

He strongly urged and encouraged rehearsals of the degrees, the original suggestion of Comp. Quinby, and with regard to one he says:—

"During the rehearsal the Principal of the School made any corrections necessary both in language and floor movements."

He gives in detail his journeyings throughout the Jurisdiction, a wonderful record, and says that "anniversary events are well worth while."

Of his visit to Canada he graciously says:—

"The warm hospitality of our Canadian Companions is proverbial among those who have been fortunate enough to be its recipient.

"Our every comfort was looked after. While there we had the privilege of witnessing the conferring of the Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees by the Canadian Companions. The work was beautifully rendered."

After a visit to Massachusetts he is led to exclaim:—

"We thought the M. Ex. Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania had some authority, but we simply sat in amazement when we saw how our Companions in Massachusetts handled matters. It has been a great school for us and we sincerely regret our passing out. We must say that they appreciate their Grand High Priest in Massachusetts and are not backward in the least in telling him so. They know a good officer when they get him."

He gives many decisions of more than local interest and thus nobly concludes his address:—

"These Masonic principles have been so completely transcribed into the institutions of our country that it would seem as if the foundations of our Masonic philosophy and the political philosophy of democracy were laid in the same hands, so that we cannot divorce ourselves from the duty of being good citizens in our daily walks of life if we would be good Masons in the Chapter hall.

"The aim of the forces of radicalism the world over is to destroy democracy and substitute class rule. We should confess with Franklin, 'God governs in the affairs of men.' But we must never forget that to our hands has been committed the Ark of the people's Covenant, and that ours is the duty to shield it from destruction. If individuals be not influenced by our great principles, it is vain to look for public virtue."

The honoured name of William B. Meredith is placed opposite Canada and other Jurisdictions and the review is written either by or for him.

Under Alabama, referring to report of a Committee which did not wholly approve of eliminating "rough roads and old bridges" from the ritual, he says—"this strikes us as simple timidity."

Of the topical style of review which California adopts he says:—

“As a resumé of opinions on many different subjects it has many things to commend it, and to a seasoned reviewer it will furnish a pleasant hour’s reading. As a review of the current year’s activities in Capitular Masonry it conveys little real information.”

Canada for 1924 is well reviewed. Of the Grand Z.’s address he says:—

“He counsels most earnestly co-operation. He refers to the great benefits accruing from the interchange of visits between the officers of various Grand Chapters. In this matter he was not one who preached without practising.”

Of the Grand Scribe E. he pays a merited tribute:—

“The Grand Secretary, R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, made a report which deserves a place all its own.”

Of our report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry he is kind enough to comment thus:—

“They have an annual Report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry. This is prepared by M. Ex. Comps. George Moore and W. N. Ponton and delivered by Companion Ponton. It is a wonderful production, but space will not permit us to say more. One thought, however, we quote:—

“‘As the King said, the organization that is meanly housed is apt to be meanly esteemed. We cannot have an A1 Chapter in a C3 compartment.’”

And we actually blush with pleasant pride as representing Canada, as we read what he further says with regard to the correspondent of Canada:—

“Well, the Round Table certainly welcomes the addition of this cultured, scholarly, enthusiastic Mason. A Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, a Past Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, has given him experience, which, coupled with a graceful diction, makes his contribution to Freemasonry of great value. Long may we have the privilege of your comradeship.

“He reviews the Jurisdictions, culling from each some lesson, some new view, and lays the whole before the Companions of Canada in a most pleasing arrangement.”

Connecticut’s independent units do not please him and he says:—

"It would seem that in Connecticut each Chapter is the judge of the ritual it will practise. We believe this to be fundamentally wrong. Each Sovereign Jurisdiction should have a ritual which should be used by every Chapter."

Under England he quotes largely from the Pro. First Grand Principal, Lord Amptill's address regarding the old now buried and forgotten trouble with Quebec and Canada.

Georgia gives him this opportunity of praising a great philanthropy:—

"The Masonic Home Print Shop established to enable children in the Masonic Home to learn the printer's art is now an accomplished fact, and a seemingly good experiment. This shop printed the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter."

Maine gives him something worthy to record which all Chapters might take to heart:—

"What is possibly next best as reported in one visitation, the Companions present 'remained in the Chapter until it closed, refrained from whispering and were interested and attentive listeners.'"

Of his own Jurisdiction he truly says:—

"Pennsylvania has pride in the authenticity of her Capitular work."

Of the Past Master's degree under Quebec our reviewer has decided opinions:—

"We note the report of the Special Committee on Ritual that the elimination of the P. M. degree was recommended. If this degree means no more in Quebec than it does in Pennsylvania, Ancient Craft Masonry will profit by its elimination, in the opinion of the reviewer."

R. Ex. Comp. R. J. Reade represents Pennsylvania near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Pennsylvania (like New York) is a great Jurisdiction, geographically and intellectually.

George P. Darrow, Philadelphia, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Joseph Quinby, Philadelphia, M. Ex. Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC.

M. Ex. Comp. W. M. Couper, K.C., Grand Z.

Membership, 3,357.

Net increase, 154.

Number of Chapters, 21.

An excellent portrait of the soldierly and clean-cut First Grand Principal of the Ancient Fortress City of Quebec opens the Proceedings.

The Forty-eighth Annual Grand Convocation was held at the Masonic Temple, Montreal, 25th March, 1925. The Forty-ninth Convocation will be held in Montreal 24th March, 1926.

Six Past Grand Zs. reported for active duty.

Canada as usual was represented by M. Ex. Comp. J. Alexander Cameron who never fails.

A telegram of sympathy was sent to M. Ex. Comp. E. T. D. Chambers, who was ill and unable to attend.

The address of the Grand First Principal is full of good matter and he expresses the hope:—

“That each one may go forth with a fixed purpose of carrying out through life the true exemplification of those beautiful Masonic principles which we have learned from the day we first trod the outer courts of the Temple until our reception within its veils.

“The lesson that we should present only good and square work can be so aptly illustrated in our lives by good deeds and upright actions; the lesson that we should be faithful servants like those of old who earned the title of Most Excellent Master surely teaches us to be faithful in all things, faithful to our duty to God, to our neighbor, to ourselves, and faithful to the Order to which we belong and to the principles which it enunciates; and as the lesson of the Royal Arch degree teaches us that we have reached the cope stone of the Masonic Structure, so should it stimulate us to strive for high ideals, noble thoughts, great achievements.

“The year’s work will show an increase in our membership and, while this increase is not as large as the past three or four years, still it is found to be very satisfactory when we know the existing conditions of industrial and commercial life.

“I am glad, too, to be able to welcome, not only our own Companions of this Jurisdiction, but our invited guests and Companions from other Jurisdictions,—those who represent our mother Grand Chapter, the Grand Chapter of Canada,

and those who come from Jurisdictions in the United States of America."

With regard to the "reconciliation" between the Grand Chapter of England and the Grand Chapter of Quebec, owing to difficulties which occurred so long ago that most men had forgotten them, the Grand Z. says:—

"It is not my intention to go into the causes or reasons for the issuing of that Edict, which was done only after very extensive, almost voluminous, correspondence, as I prefer not to look backward to the time of discord, but to look forward to the time of harmony, not to look backward into a dark cloud, but to look forward into the bright sunshine.

"However, time is a great healer, and as the years have rolled by the matter has been forgotten in England and by many on this side also forgotten and, to the younger generation of Companions, perhaps altogether unknown.

"I recollected that our Companions had gone overseas and had rubbed shoulder to shoulder with the Companions of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England; that they had fought together in the common cause of humanity and in defence of our Empire; and I thought what a wonderful example of companionship was there illustrated. I had heard that some of our Companions, not knowing of the Edict, had gone to visit Chapters in England, and that they had been received and welcomed by the Chapters in England, they also evidently not knowing of the Edict.

"I am not unmindful of the loyalty displayed by the many Grand Jurisdictions who maintained the view of this Grand Chapter on the subject mentioned, and I feel that I should express our thanks to them, and am sure that they will rejoice with us in the termination arrived at."

Maple Leaf Chapter was consecrated and the Duke of Kent Chapter was instituted during the year.

The Grand Z. had visited with great delight New Hampshire and Massachusetts, in the latter State having been received by Grand Lodge as well as Grand Chapter, and he pays a merited tribute to the various excellencies of M. Ex. Comp. Curtis Chipman and M.W. Bro. Rev. Dudley H. Ferrell as well as to the distinguished Craftsman Most Illustrious Comp. A. D. Prince.

With regard to Divine Service he speaks with no uncertain sound and this reviewer heartily agrees

but quite recognizes that there are differences of opinion in this regard:—

“On this subject let me say, Companions, how much I commend these services. I have always felt that true Free Masons, Craft or Royal Arch, should be the first to support the Church of the True and Living God, Most High, and a proper appreciation of the teachings and principles of Masonry should lead its members to join in services before the Great Jehovah, who is our Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the Ending of all things, human and divine..”

He rules that all requests for Dispensations must bear the seal of the Chapter making the request.

He speaks of the visit of the Earl of Cassillis, Grand Z. of Scotland, and the Earl in his report to Scotland makes similar reference to his reception both in Quebec and in Ontario.

The Grand Z.'s conclusion is as follows:—

“During my term I have lost no opportunity, when addressing the Companions, to emphasize and urge the exercise of ‘True Companionship.’ Make it a ‘Real Fellowship.’ In your association with your fellow members of the Royal Craft let your actions be pervaded with the spirit of the word ‘Companion,’ and in your daily walk in life, whenever you meet one who belongs to this Royal Arch will you not treat him as a real Companion and see what exquisite joy comes from a practical demonstration of the teachings and principles of our Order.”

From the Grand Lecturer's Report we take this paragraph:—

“A movement inaugurated by Montreal Chapter in 1923, through which an interchange of ‘working’ visits with ‘Golden Rule’ was arranged, whereby the officers of a Chapter would occupy the ‘Chairs’ in the Chapter visited and as ‘Craftsmen’ submit specimens of their skill. During the past year several of the City Chapters have exchanged such visits, meeting with successful results.”

At the evening session M. Ex. Comp. Pollard, of Massachusetts; M. Ex. Comp. Chipman and other representatives of Massachusetts; M. Ex. Comp. Birmingham and other representatives of New York, our own Grand Scribe E., Henry T. Smith; M. Ex. Comp. MacDougall, P.G.H.P. of Nova Scotia, were accorded a most enthusiastic welcome, which

was suitably acknowledged by the visiting Companions.

As the Grand Chapter of Canada made common cause with the Grand Chapter of Quebec at the time of the old differences, it may be well to re-quote a part of the report of the Committee of which M. Ex. Comp. Cameron was Chairman, in order that the position of England as well as the position of Quebec may be understood:—

“These new Warrants were regarded by the Grand Chapter of Quebec as an invasion of our territory, when viewed in the light of the American and Canadian doctrine of exclusive territorial Jurisdiction; but the position or doctrine of the English authorities was that these Warrants were intended only for the benefit of members of the English Register Lodges here, to enable them to obtain the Mark and Chapter degrees in bodies of English creation, and that therefore the new Warrants constituted no invasion of the territorial Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. It will at once be seen how impossible it was to reconcile such opposing doctrines and systems. They were tenaciously held by either side, much correspondence ensued and finally, as already mentioned, Edicts of non-intercourse were issued by this Grand Chapter against the two Grand Bodies in England and their respective subordinates.”

Lord Ampthill paved the way for straightening out the difficulty and of him it is said:—

“His visit here and its circumstances afforded him an outlook upon the situation which no highly-placed officer of this Grand Chapter had ever exercised; while his broad experience in other parts of the Empire, his statesman-like attitude to Masonic problems and his desire that Masonry might contribute to strengthen the ties of Empire, predisposed him to realize that the condition of affairs here was essentially local and demanded special treatment.”

It is a source of great satisfaction that all these misunderstandings are forever done away with:—

“Now is the winter of our discontent
Made glorious summer by this son of York.”

M. Ex. Comp. Couper and nearly all the other Officers of Grand Chapter were re-elected.

Quebec is represented in Canada by R. Ex. Comp. E. B. Brown, K.C., of Toronto, our predecessor.

The usual foreword or preamble is missing, owing to the illness of the Chairman, M. Ex. Comp. Chambers, who however had completed his reviews but was not able to continue his labours.

Throughout Quebec as through other Jurisdictions tributes to and quotations from the late M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn abound.

From Georgia Comp. Chambers takes this extract:—

"In concluding his address, M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn said:—
"There stands in the harbor of New York a statue holding aloft the torch of Liberty. If I were a sculptor I would change this statue. I would put on that pedestal the form of a man. I would put on his head long flowing brown hair, on his face the beard of the same color. I would put in his face the kindest eye that ever shone out of humanity. I would put on him a countenance that was grave and stern, but full of compassion and love. I would put a robe on him and fasten it with a girdle at the waist. I would put sandals on his feet, a crown of thorns on his head and in his right hand I would put the torch of Liberty and Truth enlightening the world, that the rays of the Master's Word might illumine the wide world round and standing for everything that is the highest and noblest among men."

And from the General Grand Chapter these paragraphs which grip:—

"Never during the past century have these degrees received the attention they are receiving to-day. The tide is sweeping on. Not a tide of membership, but a tide for dignified rituals.

"In my visitations I have endeavoured to impress upon the members of the Grand Chapter the dignity and solemnity of our ceremonies. I am very much gratified to bring to you the good news that the moral and intellectual moron who sees nothing in the Capitular degrees but buffoonery, is gradually being weeded out of Chapters. His mental and moral makeup does not fit him to enjoy the degree of the Lodge; there are no cap or bells in the Commandery, and now he is being driven from his last stronghold—the Royal Arch. There is no place in Freemasonry for him. We all can guess where he will find his consolation."

Comp. Chambers comments on Iowa as follows:—

"Companion Willard insists very strongly upon the importance of education, declaring that it is among the outstanding needs of the hour. This is very true. But what is

of more importance than even education is character, which depends largely of course upon a proper system of education. Without these, men may go on educating and training clever gangs of crooks such as now infest too many of our large communities, thriving upon proceeds of crime, and so-called smart dealings with their fellow-men."

Under Saskatchewan the presence of M. Ex. Comp. Spencer and the gift of \$1,500 are favourably noted.

Scotland furnishes this loyal note:—

"It is interesting to note in connection with the toasts to the Royal Family at this banquet that the Prince of Wales was referred to by his Scottish title. 'The Duke of Rothsay in his short career,' said the proposer of the toast, 'has made himself a universal favourite wherever he goes. India, Canada and Australia all unite with the Homeland in singing his praises..'"

Virginia's correspondent receives this worthy commendation from the Dean of all correspondents:—

"We have again from R. Ex. Comp. Joseph W. Eggleston a splendid review of the Reports of sister Grand Chapters, such a one in fact as is produced by only a few of the most expert and most industrious authors of Correspondence Reports."

We are sorry that our own Jurisdiction has not been brought to the official notice of Comp. Chambers. We are sure that our high esteem for him is reciprocated and trust that we may hear of his restoration to health and strength.

M. Ex. Comp. W. W. Couper, K.C., Grand Z.

M. Ex. Comp. W. W. Williamson, Grand Scribe E.

QUEENSLAND.

M. Ex. Comp. John A. Miles, Grand First Principal.

The brief but comprehensive Proceedings are preceded by a very interesting Masonic calendar from which we take the following:—

"Scottish Rite, same as Ancient Craft, except that Jewish chronology is used, Anno Mundi (A.M.) 'in the year of the world.'

"Knights Templar commence their era with the organization of their Order, Anno Ordinis (A.O.) 'the year of the order.'

"Order of High Priesthood dates from the year of the blessing of Abraham by the High Priest Melchisedek, Anno Benefacio (A.B.) 'in the year of blessing.'

"Scottish Rite—add 3,760 to the common era. Thus 1923 and 3,760 gives 5683. After September, add another year.

"Royal Arch—add 530 years to the vulgar era. Thus: 1923 and 530 gives 2453."

The portrait of M. Ex. Comp. Miles, Grand First Principal, and his interesting biography, and also the In Memoriam Obituaries and pictures of M. Ex. Comp. Shale and M. Ex. Comp. Hawkins, late Grand Scribe E., both of whom died universally regretted, occupy the title pages of the Proceedings.

Quarterly Convocation was held at the Masonic Temple, Brisbane, 31st of March, 1924.

The report of the Grand Committee on General Purposes was received and carried.

The Grand Inspector of Workings is a busy official and at each Quarterly meeting details his energetic work in keeping in contact with the various Chapters. The Grand First Principal at each meeting delivers a brief address.

Another Quarterly Convocation was held at Brisbane, 30th July, 1924, when the usual business was presented. The Report of the Grand Inspector of Workings says:—

"This can only be attained by having a Chapter of Instruction or Research, where the different parts of the Ceremony could be discussed, and the officers come to an agreement of how the ceremonial should be conducted."

The Seventh Annual Convocation was held at Brisbane, 29th October, 1924, with a large attendance. Grand First Principal Miles was re-elected with other Officers, and they were duly installed and invested, M. Ex. Comp. Roberts acting as Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The Report of Grand Scribe E. contains a touching reference to the death of M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn, of the General Grand Chapter of the United States,

showing that his influence has extended over all the world. He reports optimistically of the progress of the new Grand Chapter, and says:—

“I am pleased to state that we are steadily coming into our own, and have received fraternal recognition and exchanged Grand Representatives with nineteen Grand Chapters and in fraternal correspondence with sixty Grand Chapters. This speaks for itself as to the legality of our formation.”

From the Grand First Principal's address we take the following two paragraphs:—

“To travel four or five hundred miles, have a meal, and then, without a rest, carry out a three hours' ceremonial, is trying, but the welcome one receives, the feeling of friendliness, and the general happiness, takes away all feeling of fatigue, and makes one think life is worth living.

“We are in friendly correspondence with practically every Grand Chapter in the world, with many of which we have exchanged representatives. Others are taking up a ‘wait and see’ attitude. This, to me, is wrong. Freemasonry should be an universal brotherhood, and the question of admitting or rejecting should not be held up to see what others will do. Rail-sitters are a curse in every movement.”

The membership is not given, but there are twelve prosperous Chapters and the Grand Treasurer's account looks favourable.

There is no Fraternal Correspondence Report.

John A. Miles, Brisbane, Grand First Principal.

Thomas C. Moxley, Brisbane, Grand Scribe E.

SASKATCHEWAN.

M. Ex. Comp. James McCauley, Grand Z.

Members, 2,637.

Net gain, 162.

The biography and portrait of James McCauley for so many years identified with the C.P.R. in the West, graces the Proceedings.

The Second Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Temple, Moose Jaw, February 18th, 1925, with a large attendance.

Representatives of Manitoba and North Dakota were given the grand honours.

The Mayor of Moose Jaw extended a cordial welcome thus recorded:—

“Mayor Davidson replied in a very fitting manner, welcoming the Companions of the Royal Arch to the city as those who are engaged in promulgating the same principles on which country, community and character are built, than which there is nothing higher. He tendered the friendship of the citizens and the keys of the city.

“R. Ex. Comp. J. Orville Clark replied telling of the pleasure of the Companions at being present in Moose Jaw, lauding the progress of the magnificent city and expressing appreciation for the limitless hospitality.”

Canada's Representative did not answer the roll call..

Among other excellent matter the Grand Z. said:—

“With each of us doing our share in the great Masonic work of promoting happiness and mutual welfare, this Convocation should be a landmark in the history of Capitular Masonry in Saskatchewan. With this in mind I welcome you most sincerely. The names of deceased Companions will be submitted by the Committee on Necrology. To the grief-laden hearts of the family circles and to the bereaved Companions, Grand Chapter extends its deepest condolence. May theirs be the joyous consolation, ‘that there dwells within our tabernacle of clay an imperishable spirit which the grave shall never receive and over which death has no dominion.’”

He thus refers to the death of M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn:—

“Now is the stately column broke,
The beacon light is quenched in smoke;
The trumpet's silver sound is still,
The warder silent on the hill.”

“These words, spoken on the decease of a distinguished British statesman, are fitting expression of the deep grief that fills the heart of every Royal Arch Mason throughout that vast Jurisdiction.”

He speaks of his visit to Detroit as a very memorable and happy occasion.

When attending Sovereign Great Priory at Windsor he was given the grand honours as Grand Z. and welcomed to a seat in the Grand East.

He refused a Dispensation for a Chapter to wear the Royal Arch sash at a dance. He gave the following ruling:—

“The Title ‘Excellent’ is only applied to the Three Principals in office and to him who has passed the First Principal’s Chair. A Second or Third Principal who fails to attain the latter rank reverts to the position of an ordinary Companion and must abandon the wearing of the distinctive Regalia of a Principal. If he has served the full twelve months in the chair of Second or Third Principal, he is eligible for election to the chair above that in which he has already served. That is the only distinction he possesses apart from his fellow member.

“The above ruling was adopted by the Grand Chapter of Canada and comes down to us by inheritance.”

He draws some excellent and striking allegorical lessons from the Degrees and says:—

“It is a cause of some regret to me that the deeper meanings of the Chapter degrees remain, to a very large extent, an unknown quantity to the great majority of its members, and for that reason its beauties are not enjoyed as they should be. It bears not OUR mark. Notwithstanding all this we seek the reward; we appear amongst those who have laboured faithfully—being under the impression that all are rewarded who are called from labour. Our misdirected endeavours are about to result in disaster, when we find that through the boundless love, and exceeding grace of our Master, we are pardoned—we are taught that substitute work will not be tolerated, and commanded to return to our labours.

“We find we have been strangers to all that is best in ourselves for so long that it is necessary to actually prove ourselves to our inmost soul; we must descend to its uttermost depths, allowing the great light to enter; and bring forth evidence that we have done so. Having done so, we are exalted. We are rewarded by a fulfillment of all the promises of Masonry—the revelation of the lost Word.”

He thus ends his trail as Chief of the Royal Craft:—

“As I trail, where trails go winding, let me take the path that leads

On to where I’m sure of finding simple hearts and noble deeds;

Up the trail that winds and angles, as though rugged pines and oaks

Where there are no spoils nor spangles, and where men are God’s own folks.”

Grand H. and Grand Z. make full reports.

The Grand Superintendents' Reports reflect prosperous and progressive conditions.

The Grand Scribe E., Francis B. Reilly, makes this suggestion:—

"As requests for information on the history, symbolism, etc., of the Royal Arch are frequent, I would suggest that some special means be taken to promote information on these and similar lines, among the Chapters."

In the Report on the Condition of Masonry the Companions read this admonition:—

"Your Committee continues to urge great care in the choice of Grand Superintendents. Men of character, personality, ability and devotion are needed and the duty of selecting those who best measure up to the requirements falls primarily upon the Companions.. This duty should be not discharged lightly, but with full appreciation of personal responsibility."

As to their formation springing from our loins the Committee say:—

"Obviously attention of this kind by the Princes and Rulers of the Royal Craft must tend to enthuse the Companions to greater zeal in the cause of Capitular Masonry and to confirm their hopes as to the great advantages to be derived through the establishment of a Grand Chapter in our Province as a legitimate offspring of our honoured and revered Mother Grand Chapter of Canada. The wisdom of such a move is becoming more and more evident."

The Report on the Fraternal Dead is commendably brief but feeling:—

"They are sleeping, only sleeping,
Oh! Bring no lament or weeping;
Where the ivy leaves are creeping,
They are sleeping, only sleeping."

The Grand Officers were installed by the Representatives of North Dakota and of Manitoba.

M. Ex. Comp. Arthur S. Gorrell, of Regina, represents Canada; and Saskatchewan is represented by V. Ex. Comp. William Croft, of Toronto.

The Foreign Correspondence, or as we prefer to call it, the Fraternal Correspondence, is from the pen of R. Ex. Comp. Dr. C. P. Moore, who was elected Grand Z.

Under Canada he says kindly and appreciatively:—

“The address of the Grand Z. was just about what one would expect from M. Ex. Comp. Spencer, full of wisdom and driving force. He said in part, “Let us ever be on the alert to make the activities of our Royal Craft the stream that warms and tempers the current of modern civilization.

“The report of an unofficial visit of the Grand Superintendent of Toronto West District No. 8A makes strange reading. He states that on April 10th being the Annual Transportation Night of Shekinah Chapter, he fraternally visited the Chapter, and that the officers were filled by transportation men. We understood this was against the law in Ontario.

“The Report on Fraternal Correspondence was handled for the first time by M. Ex. Comp. Ponton, of Belleville, and he is to be congratulated on his work. Of course, being a lawyer and a Past Grand Z. he was eminently fitted for the task. He dubs himself the privileged spokesman of ‘Our Lady of the Snows and Sunshine.’ He had better leave that sunshine stuff for the West—we have lived in Ontario.”

Iowa gives him his tonic:—

“The manner in which M. Ex. Comp. Masters tackles the question of decadent Chapters shows conclusively that he is a fearless officer. Too bad we did not have more like him. A dying Chapter is worse than no Chapter.”

He comments as all other correspondents do, upon the New York Grand High Priest having visited every Chapter in his great Jurisdiction.

Pennsylvania is thus recorded:—

“The review of Proceedings of other Grand Chapters is by a Committee of five, each being allotted a given number. A splendid idea, particularly when the Review covers sixty-two Grand Chapters. The work is splendidly done but after reading for some time it is easy to understand why the job was given to five persons instead of one.”

A most interesting list of the total population (757,510) of Saskatchewan by races follows:—English, 206,422; Scottish, 104,678; Irish, 84,786; German, 68,202; French, 42,152.

M.E. Comp. Dr. Charles P. Moore, Weyburn, Grand First Principal.

R.E. Comp. F. B. Reilly, Regina, Grand Scribe E.

SCOTLAND.

M. Ex. Comp. The Earl of Cassillis, Grand Z.

M. Ex. Comp. D. Lowe Turnbull, Depute Grand Z.

Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter was held at Royal Arch Masons Hall, Edinburgh, 19th September, 1924.

The First Grand Principal was welcomed home.

The Depute Grand Superintendent of New South Wales, M. Ex. Comps. Watson of Shanghai and Ex. Comp. Alexander of Bulawayo were cordially welcomed.

The proposed draft treaty between the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the Grand Chapter of Scotland were read and in the main approved.

The Supreme Grand Committee also meets Quarterly and transacts most of the business with great care and detail.

The Grand Superintendents of Tasmania and Natal gave interesting reports which were duly received.

Quarterly Convocation was held in Edinburgh 19th December, 1924, M. Ex. Comp. The Earl of Cassillis presided over a large attendance of Companions.

The sudden death of M. Ex. Comp. Chisholm, Grand Treasurer, was announced, the Companions being upstanding. He is spoken of as "a man of sterling qualities and of a most genial manner who endeared himself to all."

It was decided to celebrate the Vernal Equinox in Glasgow.

M. Ex. Comp. John Sime was greeted as the first Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of New York "since the healing of our breach with the General Grand Chapter of America."

A full report of his visitations round the world was given by the M. Ex. the First Principal. He touched most interestingly upon the Western Mediterranean, India, Australia, Tasmania, New Zea-

land, Manila, Hong Kong, China, Japan, the United States and Canada.

With regard to Queensland he says:—

“The position of our Chapters in Queensland is one requiring the greatest attention and care of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter. The loyalty which animates the Companions is not excelled in any part of the wide domain of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and Supreme Grand Chapter will honour to the full its bounden duty to those Chapters, and to the members thereof. That intensity of loyalty is well illustrated by the history of the action of Companion Macleod, now of Maryborough Chapter, above referred to, and also by the protestations of other Companions which have been made to Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter. The fullest rights of intercourse are secured to those Chapters by the recognition terms adjusted with the Supreme Grand Chapter of Queensland, and those will be faithfully and with all kindliness respected, and the sincere trust of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland must continue to be that the greatest good may attend and bless those Chapters.”

Under China we read with interest the following:—

“The visit to China would of itself require a chapter to even little more than mention all the wonderful things and places which we were privileged to see and to enter, or to record all the kindness and attention we received from officials, Companions, and Masonic Brethren in Peking and elsewhere in China, and also in Korea, through which we journeyed. In Peking I had the privilege of seeing the First degree worked by the Inter-National Lodge (Massachusetts Constitution), and also the Thirty-first degree and Thirty-second degree by the Consistory (Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.)

From his report on Canada we take the following:—

“On 18th July we reached Toronto, having visited Niagara Falls on the way. We were entertained to lunch by the Navy League of Canada, and I was also entertained to dinner by the Grand Chapter of Canada, and conveyed the heartiest greetings of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, which was most heartily reciprocated.

“A most enjoyable time was spent in Canada. We experienced much kindness, and had many opportunities to exchange courtesies with old and new friends, and were welcomed by Grand Office-bearers of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and by others at Montreal and Quebec. We also had

a pleasant visit to Nova Scotia, still largely populated by Scottish Highlanders."

Quarterly Convocation was held in Edinburgh 6th of March, 1925, The Earl of Cassillis presiding.

The appointments of Grand Superintendents are thus recorded:—

"The appointment of M. Ex. Comp. Abdeali Mohamedali Kajiji as Grand Superintendent of India was unanimously approved.

"The reappointment of M. Ex. Comp. Spence as Grand Supreintendent of Lanarkshire was unanimously approved.

"The First Grand Principal said: 'Companions, it will give me great pleasure to install M. Ex. Companion Spence once more as Grand Superintendent of Lanarkshire. If I remember right, he served as Depute to Sir Robert King Stewart for twenty-five years, and as Grand Superintendent for five years.

"'It will also give me great pleasure to re-install M. Ex. Companion Sands as Grand Superintendent of Aberdeenshire. We are glad to have his services, which have been rendered so ungrudgingly and so effectively in the past.'"

M. Ex. Comp. Sime moved a special vote of thanks to the First Grand Principal for all he had accomplished in his world tour saying:—

"Our First Grand Principal gave of his time and of his best in order to carry out the desire of Supreme Grand Chapter to visit our Chapters abroad, and the Report, which is teeming with Masonic information from beginning to end, shows what a strenuous time he had. But before sitting down, I would just say that there are many acute questions which arise, and which are bound to arise, in connection with some of our outlying parts."

A civic reception was held at Glasgow 20th of March, 1925.

The Lord Provost and other dignitaries attending part of the great function which is thus described:—

"Over 1,200 ladies and gentlemen attended the function from all parts of Scotland. The guests were received and welcomed by the Lord Provost in the Satinwood Salon, who, in the course of his remarks, stated that it was the first occasion on which a Civic Reception had been accorded the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Masons in this country.

"Sir R. King Stewart, Immediate Past First Grand Principal, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Lord Provost,

Magistrates, and Corporation of Glasgow, said Masons were out to assist their poorer Brethren, and do good to their fellow-men. Freemasonry in Scotland, England, and in the Colonies exercised a great influence, and he was quite certain, in these times of unrest, Masons were working for the good of the country.

"The enjoyment of the assemblage was much enhanced by the opportunity afforded to a large proportion of the guests of viewing the richness of the Municipal Chambers at their best, an opportunity which they had not previously enjoyed."

The Annual Convocation was held in the Masonic Hall, Glasgow, 21st March, 1925, with a record attendance.

The 133rd Psalm was sung by all and the installation of the Grand Officers then proceeded in due and ancient form and Honorary rank was conferred on many distinguished Brethren the world over. For instance, the rank of Grand Director of Ceremonies was conferred on the following:—

"M. Ex. Companion Francisco Aguado y Reyes, Past Z. of Chapter Keystone, Manila.

"M. Ex. Companion W. Rupert Redman, Chapter Scotia, Bridgetown, Barbados.

"M. Ex. Companion James Robertson, Past Z. of Chapters Faith and Charity, and Orient, Nairobi.

"M. Ex. Companion Frederick Owen Webb, Past Z. of Chapter Harmony, Port of Spain, Trinidad.

"M. Ex. Comp. James Carson Ferguson, Scribe E. of Chapter St. Andrew, Hongkong.

"M. Ex. Comp. James M'Leod, Queensland."

The Banquet is delightfully reported, the speeches being given verbatim and must be read in full to be thoroughly enjoyed.

M. Ex. Comp. Campbell in proposing the toast to "The Imperial Forces" referred to our ancient Brethren:—

"It was found that enemies came and troubled them time after time, but they did not hesitate. They appointed a guard to look after those who were building the walls, and arranged that the auxiliary forces, while working their trowels should have their swords close by, in order to keep off the common enemy. 'Defence' not 'Defiance' is the object of our Imperial Forces. I recollect, in thinking over the words of Sir Walter Scott on that occasion in 'The Lady of the Lake,' when Fitz-James, being brought down from the Highlands in the com-

pany of Roderick Dhu, was challenged by him asking why he sought

“These paths, traversed by few,
Without a pass from Roderick Dhu.’

Now, Fitz-James had also been taught that Defence need not be Defiance, and he immediately and undauntedly replied to Roderick Dhu:—

“Brave Gael, my pass in danger tried,
Hangs in my belt and by my side.’

That, I think, ought to be our attitude towards all that relates to our Imperial Forces. We are out for a period of reconstruction, and it is going to be most difficult work. There are enemies on many sides, and it behoves us to forget that while we are negotiating we have to keep our powder dry.”

M. Ex. Comp. Colonel Balfour fittingly replied and spoke of the “war weariness” from which many young men were suffering and adds:—

“The call to us, then, as good citizens and good Masons too, is to do everything possible to encourage and assist our Imperial Forces in maintaining their strength up to the necessary establishment, and up to an efficiency of the highest possible standard. Companions, I am sure these forces can depend upon your help.”

The First Grand Principal responded eloquently, referring to the magnificent gathering of 2,300 Royal Arch Masons in Sydney and all with the exception of 200 being Scottish members. He brought out the interesting fact that he was descended from four Provosts of Glasgow, and with regard to the East and the West of Scotland he says:—

“I was at a gathering in Edinburgh recently, where we were informed that the history of Edinburgh was the history of Scotland. Well, that is all very well. We Scots all love and admire Edinburgh, but at the same time, Edinburgh is only a pebble on the beach. There was a good deal of history made in the West which, too, was the centre of the upholding of civil and religious liberty.”

As to his travels through the Dominions he said:—

“Whenever I went to the Dominions, I found a great deal being done by the Masons for the common weal. The Masons,

no matter to what Constitution they belong, have a very high ideal of Masonry, and carry out these ideals, not only in having Masonic Schools, Orphanages, etc., but also for providing relief for the unemployed. I found there great devotion to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland."

And concludes with the "Vision Superspective":—

"We have to watch and pray and keep ourselves individually free from temptation so as to be able to help on the fight, which is for the betterment of our fellow-men. This we can only do by invoking that help which comes from Above, without which we are unprofitable servants."

The toast of the Sister Constitutions by M. Ex. Comp. Hunter contained the following:—

"Now, the Sister Constitutions are very dear to us, particularly at this time. In the olden days they embraced the Irish Constitution and the English Constitution, and we claim, incidentally, that we are the oldest of the three."

And from the replies which were adequate and eloquent we take the following extracts:—

"Well, I came across the Border without any pass from Roderick Dhu. I was interested to know how you spent your time, and how you did things in the North. I am quite sure that whatever we proud English folk—and justly proud we are—think of ourselves, the Scottish people are people of a most democratic and amiable character. It is stamped upon them in all ranks of society. They seem, according to the grade and position of life in which it has pleased God to place them, to do their duty publicly and well for the common weal. We also know that the Scotsman is skilled beyond measure, and so self-assertive that you cannot plant an English colony anywhere but a Scotsman is at the head of the roost. But, I just want to conclude by saying this: Royal Arch Masonry just strikes the keynote in Freemasonry, and wherever the Constitution may be situated, it leads men to learn, to discern, to discover the ineffable; and whether it leads simply to a hard crude faith in the Deity, or whether it leads to approaching with reverential awe the mysteries of the Godhead, the Master Head that rules this mysterious cosmos of ours, it matters not, because it leads us on to learn and to strive to understand each other better, and the great complex civilization in which we live to-day, and to learn that each of us is a part of that great mass, and that we are one little bit in that great pattern that will ultimately be worked out in the world."

M. Ex. Comp. Turnbull in proposing the toast to the City of Glasgow touched upon the history of St. Mungo's Cathedral and also upon the Coat-of-Arms of Glasgow which makes interesting and romantic historical reading:—

"About 1238 the foundations of the present Cathedral were laid, and a number of houses sprang up round it; so, you see, Glasgow had an ecclesiastical origin. The Cathedral was consecrated and dedicated to St. Mungo, who was born near Culross on the Forth. St. Serf, who lived in the neighbourhood, became his foster-father, and christened him 'Kentigern,' that is, 'Lord in Chief,' but, owing to his loving disposition, he received the pet name Mungo, which means 'The Dear One.'

"A certain King Roderick married Princess Langueth, and at the time of their marriage gave her a valuable ring. The Queen was greatly interested in a courtier, and handed the ring to him one day. On one occasion, after hunting, he fell asleep, and the King, passing along, noticed the ring on the courtier's finger. While the courtier slept, the King slipped the ring off his finger and flung it into the river. He proceeded home in a towering passion, and demanded to know from the Queen where his ring was, and ordered her to produce it on penalty of death. The Queen confessed to St. Mungo what she had done. He immediately ordered a line to be thrown into the river, and the first fish caught was to be brought to him alive. This was done. St. Mungo took the ring out of its mouth and handed it to the Queen, who made her peace with her husband with the restored ring. The bell is said to have been brought from Rome by St. Mungo. Money was left by various citizens of Glasgow to keep this bell ringing when they died, so that the faithful would offer up prayers for the safety of their souls. The bird is said to be robin redbreast, a favourite of St. Serf. One of his disciples was said to have killed it and put the blame on St. Mungo. St. Mungo took the bird in his hand, prayed over it, and it was restored to life. This is the story of the Coat-of-Arms of Glasgow."

The Lord Provost said among other good things:—

"I am just going to say that, if you are true to the principles of Royal Arch Masonry, true to your ideals, and true to your faith, then you will make splendid citizens of the City of Glasgow. In these troublesome times in which we live, when so many questions animate us, I am always glad to recognize in every way those institutions and those societies which are for the making of good citizens."

Banteringly the Depute Grand Superintendent of the Province of Glasgow said:—

“I hope that all of you will appreciate the fact that in the Stygian darkness of the Western Provinces, there is a much higher culture than you may have expected to find did you judge by the utterances in another place of ‘the wild men from the Clyde,’ and so I am hopeful that you will aid and assist us to impress upon Supreme Grand Chapter the great advantage the Provinces will gain by Supreme Grand Chapter more frequently assembling in their midst.”

At the conclusion of the great gathering the last toast was given and thus recorded:—

“The First Grand Principal then gave the last toast—‘Happy to meet, sorry to part, hoping to meet again.’ The toast, having been duly honoured, the Companions circled round the hall, and in the ‘Brotherly Chain,’ with the old hand-clasp, sang ‘Auld Lang Syne.’ The proceedings were brought to a close in time-honoured fashion by the singing of the National Anthem.”

The Grand Committee met in Edinburgh 5th of June, 1925, and their work will be reviewed in our next report.

The Earl of Cassillis, Grand Z.

M. Ex. Comp. George A. Howell, Grand Scribe E.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

William W. Wannamaker, Grand High Priest.

Membership, 6,635.

Net gain, 99..

The One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Grand Convocation was held in Spartanburg, April 14th, 1925, eight Past Grand High Priests present. Canada had the honour of being represented by Grand High Priest Wannamaker himself.

The Grand High Priest's welcome was very cordial. He said:—

“I welcome those of you who, holding commissions of other Grand Jurisdictions near this Grand Chapter, evidenced by this fact and your presence the companionship of Royal Arch Masons throughout the world.”

Of the Dead he thus speaks:—

“Many Companions of our own Chapters have exchanged the substitute of this temporal life for the blessed reality of a life eternal.”

With regard to re-establishing fraternal relations with Scotland he says with a fine regard for the prerogative of his own sovereign Jurisdiction:—

“I am not sure that the General Grand High Priest has authority to ‘declare fraternal relations restored between Grand Chapters of this obedience’ and the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland or any other Grand Jurisdiction, and I would, therefore, recommend that this Grand Chapter take independent action and on the grounds already set forth revoke and withdraw its former Edict and if agreeable with the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland renew the former relations by the exchange of representatives.”

To the late lamented M.E. Comp. Kuhn he pays this tribute:—

“How we grew to know him, to respect him and to love him not only because he was human as we, but for his superior kindliness, gentleness and high conception of spiritual truth.”

Under the State of the Order he says:—

“The large number of demissions and suspensions for n.p.d. would indicate from experience that the Secretaries have not always been on their jobs.”

Among his decisions are the following:—

“Q.—Is a Companion who has been erased for n.p.d. subject to the Jurisdiction of the Chapter as regards un-Masonic conduct?

“Ans.—Yes. Proceed in all respects as if the Companion were in good standing..

“You ask: ‘We dropped seventeen members of the Lodge for n.p.d. Did that automatically drop them from the Chapter? Before sending in my report I must know whether to include them and their dollar or not.’

“A Mason expelled or suspended by a Symbolic Lodge shall stand in the relation of an expelled or suspended Royal Arch Mason without further trial.”

Recognition of the Grand Chapter of Queensland was postponed.

Ex. Comp. James B. Little, of Trenton, represents South Carolina in Canada.

A department of the Proceedings to which many pages are most interestingly and profitably devoted consists of biographical sketches of Grand High Priests, past and present, from 1812 to 1924. This is a feature which we in Canada might well follow. Of the Grand High Priest of 1830 we read some interesting facts. **Alexander McDonald**, born in England, merchant of Charleston, very active. He was also prominent in religious, civil and military circles in Charleston. Vestryman **St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church**, 1924.

Among the famous men who have presided over the destinies of S.C. Masonry was Albert Gallatin Mackey, M.D., Grand High Priest from 1854 to 1866, most eminent as a Masonic writer and jurist. He died in 1881.

Of General Wilmot Gibbes DeSaussure, who was Grand High Priest 1878 to 1879, this honourable record is given:—

“Prominent wherever good was to be done, active wherever there was need for helpful sympathy for human suffering, tender as a woman yet true as steel, with all the vigour and manliness of a man. He was a member of nearly every one of the useful and charitable associations and institutions of Charleston.”

M. Ex. Aristippus Doty was Grand High Priest in 1890. He was an educationist, and of him his biographer says:—

“Possessed in a remarkable degree the elements of a successful teacher. Firm, calm and resolute, he impressed these qualities upon all with whom he came in contact, and was especially successful in the management of large bodies of pupils.”

The Grand Correspondent, the veteran M. Ex. Comp. James L. Michie, of Darlington, prefaces his review of the Proceedings of sister Jurisdictions with the following verse:—

“ ‘Rich?—Why, I’m a millionaire,
I’m richer than Cræsus there;
Not in the cash I hold,
Not in mere terms of gold,
But in the dividends
Paid in the love of friends,

Paid in the joy I find
 Dwelling among my kind,
 Serving their needs and mine,
 Rich in the thrills divine,
 Surging within my heart,
 Trying to do my part;
 Making the world a place
 Fuller of love and grace.' ”

Under British Columbia he quotes:—

“The Grand Chapter of Canada, one of the grandest Masonic bodies in the civilized world, has mothered the various geographical divisions of the Dominion with Grand Chapters for each Province as the opportunity offered, and now with its wonderful membership, has only one Province, the good old Province of Ontario, in its Jurisdiction.”

California's poetical effusion of their Grievance Committee has caught his eye, beginning thus:—

Your Grievance Committee the whole year through
 Have really and truly had nothing to do.
 That you may understand the situation,
 Just listen to the following narration.

Canada is interestingly treated and at length. among other things he says:—

“In introducing the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada (in Ontario) Past Grand Zed W. N. Ponton gives us a new version of one of Shakespeare's well known sayings. Here is it, ‘Uneasy lies the head that was born to rule.’ ”

He quotes from the report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry as follows with approval:—

“Here and now greeting and welcoming those Grand Jurisdictions that have sent their best to us from their home centres where our rulers have tasted their abounding hospitality—their corn, wine, oil, incense and salt, we emphasize their significance and high import in determining the condition of Capitular Masonry. Our realization of its universality becomes clearer as latitude and longitude are merged in one far-flung brother line.”

And he concludes thus:—

“He quotes largely from General Grand High Priest Kuhn's address, but either he or the printer has spoiled a beautiful allusion by substituting the word ‘world’ for ‘word’ in the fourth paragraph quoted.

“Our giving Companion Spencer's address as Toronto was a *Lapsus Calami*, Companion Ponton, it should have been

Trenton. We hope no inconvenience was caused by it. We used the correct address last year."

Under Connecticut he comments upon one of our own problems as follows:—

"He ruled that where the Constitution of the Grand Chapter and the Constitution of the General Grand disagreed the Constitution of the Grand Chapter had to be followed. Approved of by the Grand Chapter and the J.P.'s. He disapproved of hippodroming, 'travelling around like a circus for the purpose of conferring degrees upon classes.'"

Under Michigan our confrère actually expresses approval of the transitory unreliable dates of meeting regulated by the moon so erratic as far as related to the general calendar, and says:—

"All honour to these three Chapters, meeting by the moon is second cousin to a landmark."

Many men, many minds!

Wyoming gives opportunity for this comment:—

"Referring to his railroading dispensations, he quotes and says:

"'Virtue becomes a vice by being misapplied

And vice becomes a virtue by action dignified."

"The J.P.'s did not like the railroading proclivities of the Grand High Priest, and while advising approval of his action, recommended 'that in future all petitions be required to wait the statutory time before being balloted on.'"

In his conclusion Comp. Michie gives us some interesting statistics:—

"All the Jurisdictions in the United States show an increase in membership. Illinois came first with 4,067. New York with 3,276, has risen from third to second place, beating Ohio with 2,476. Pennsylvania with 2,068, Michigan with 1,994, and Texas 1,351, take fourth, fifth and sixth places respectively.

"When it comes to membership Illinois still leads with 86,410. Ohio, with 77,224, has jumped from fourth to second place."

The next Annual Convocation will be held in Greenville, 28th April, 1926.

Comp. Charles K. Chreitzberg, Rock Hill, Grand High Priest.

Comp. O. Frank Hart, Columbia, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Joseph Stanton, M.E., Grand High Priest.

Membership, 6,380.

Net gain, 28.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation was held in the Masonic Temple at Sioux Falls, June 11th, 1925.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation will be held at Yankton, 10th June, 1926, and Grand Lodge will meet at Yankton, June 8th, 1926. Many Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters meet thus on consecutive days.

Eleven Past Grand High Priests adorned the East, a good record for a Grand Chapter of this size.

Canada was represented by Comp. Leonard M. Simons.

The Grand High Priest speaks very strongly upon that reverence, dignity and devotion which should characterize the conferring of the Royal Arch Degrees. He does not think the reverse has a magnetic attraction to secure the attendance of members. He says:—

"It has been my experience that the percentage of attendance is higher in Chapters where the ritualistic work is exemplified in a dignified and proper manner than it is in those Chapters where it is made a farcical exhibition. My observation during the past year has firmly convinced me that the members of the fraternity, who have the highest and best conception of it, its principles, teachings and mission, do not desire to see its ritualistic work degraded to the level of an ordinary burlesque."

Among his decisions are the following:—

"That there is no pass word in the Royal Arch Degree.

"That the Great Lights shall be displayed in all Chapter degrees in the same manner as in the Master Mason Degree.

"That the exaltation of a candidate takes place at the time the ineffable name and the G. R. A. W. are communicated. All other ceremonies are but preliminary to it."

The Committee on Necrology give an altogether unique report, breaking away from many of the old lines. Two extracts must suffice:—

"From time immemorial belief in a life hereafter has been close to the heart and soul of men. There never has been a

religion which has had an influence over the progress of the world which did not teach in some way or other a belief in immortality. No one seems to be able to explain or refute the faith that comes from the heart of man. No doctor of philosophy has ever been able to analyze it. Death is but a stepping out into God's own sunshine: it is awaking from the dream-life of earth, with its many nightmares, to the clear vision of the eternal glory."

The Committee on Resolutions reported upon the new Library with much deserved satisfaction. We in Canada should have the same:—

"The dream indulged in by Brother Pettigrew and others that some day the Masons of this State would have the pleasure and advantage of a great library has found its fruition in the beautiful building that has been dedicated during this session. May its influence within the circles of Masonry be greatly extended and widened as the years go by."

This Jurisdiction remembers its Dead, devoting many pages to memorial tablets and portraits.

R. Ex. Comp. Albert E. Cooper, of London, represents South Dakota in Canada.

The Correspondence Review is written and well written by M.E. Comp. Charles L. Brockway, who is the new Grand High Priest.

He touches all the Jurisdictions whose Proceedings he has received with a light but sure hand.

California suggested the following thoughts upon intervisitations:—

"During the year the Grand High Priest travelled 11,000 miles in visiting Chapters throughout the length and breadth of the State and reached all but three of them. The policy pursued was to bring the Companions from different communities into closer contact with each other, thus arousing a spirit of friendly rivalry and mutual co-operation which proved of great benefit to the fraternity."

By agreement with Grand Lodge a newly raised Master Mason must wait six months before applying for the York or Scottish Rite Degrees, and our reviewer says:—

"He concludes that there is only one thing for the Chapters to do, that is, to give the Grand Lodge cheerful and unswerving support, and be careful to carry out the terms of the rule in their fullest extent."

He quotes largely under Canada from R. Ex. Comp. Gardiner's splendid Report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry as follows:—

"Too much stress cannot be given to the very great danger that lurks unseen and unsuspected behind the assumption that the success or failure of our Chapters depends solely upon the number of candidates admitted to membership during the year. An increase in numbers denotes a growth, but whether that growth be healthy, permanent and satisfactory, depends very largely upon the impression created in the candidate's mind during his progress through the several degrees. We deplore the tendency in some Chapters to hurry the candidates. To this end, we emphasize the importance of accuracy, sincerity and dignity in the ceremonial work, promptness in the opening of the Chapter, and closing at a reasonable hour."

Of our own reviewer he kindly and generously comments as follows:—

"He goes about the work in a way that very evidently furnished him with much of pleasure. He made a cruise of the Special Service Squadron about the known world of the Royal Craft, happily accomplished and the lines of communication kept open.

"As usual his work is most interesting. He picks up on the voyage many things of interest and displays them with judgment and tact. He stopped at South Dakota's port of entry, looked us over and said a lot of kind things about us."

Under Masonic Homes Connecticut receives an approving paragraph:—

"An assessment of Two dollars was made to be paid by each initiate at the time of receiving the Mark Master's Degree, to be paid into the Endowment Fund of the Masonic Charitly Foundation."

And the District of Columbia also:—

"He made a call for voluntary contributions of \$2.00 per capita to raise the \$12,000 necessary for the erection of the wing, and it was all forthcoming. The wing was then under process of construction and, no doubt, has long been used for the purpose intended."

Among the decisions cited from the District of Columbia he quotes the following:—

"He decided that a duplicate demit could not be granted by a Chapter in place of one which had become lost or destroyed, but only a certificate under seal of the fact that demit had been issued. In this he followed the rule adopted by the Grand Lodge, and his action was approved."

The great Jurisdiction of Illinois always gives some nuggets of thought. Our reviewer says with regard to collective balloting of which the Committee did not approve:—

“This was and is a blow at the practice found in some Chapters of using two or more ballot boxes at the same time.”

In Illinois as in other Grand Jurisdictions the Royal Arch does not allow Grand Lodge to do it all and shares the glorious privilege of supporting the Masonic Home:—

“The Hospital at the Masonic Home at Sullivan having already become inadequate to the needs, the Finance Committee reported that Grand Lodge had appropriated \$50,000 for the construction of an addition to the same, provided Grand Chapter would appropriate a like amount for the purpose, and recommended the appropriation be made.”

A complicated case having arisen in Wyoming our confrère wisely summarizes conditions as follows:—

“Seemingly, a case of too many laws.”

From the conclusion of the Review we make no apologies for quoting largely some of the thoughts of Comp. Brockway:—

“With a few notable exceptions small attendance at Chapter meetings is a prevailing complaint. Remedies of various kinds are suggested by Most Excellent Companions, Grand Lecturers and others, but so far as I have been able to discover no one seems to have found the solution of the problem. The advantages of study of the Ritual, the symbolism, philosophy and history of Capitular Masonry are everywhere urged upon the members, but Grand Schools, District Schools and Chapter Schools are, with few exceptions, said not to meet hopes and expectations in the way of attendance. Special Convocations and meetings with special features, large classes, expert degree teams, banquets and so on bring them out. This does not appear to be the age of reading and study. The ever present daily newspaper with its glaring headlines furnishes the news of the day while you wait. The automobile, whether limousine or ‘flivver,’ like the war horse of old, seems to be waiting for commands. ‘Taking the air’ or taking in the movies are so easy. Distance is annihilated, the outdoors beckons, so why stay in. The arts of walking and reading seem to be somewhat lost in the rapid whirl and rush of

these days. Intending no discourtesy whatever, may it be suggested that so-called 'high-brow' stuff will not and does not hit the mark. Man to man all of us like to hear something that touches not only the mind, but gets down into the inner consciousness and tugs at the finer feelings.

"Who, that heard him, can ever forget the matchless comradeship and eloquent manner in which our beloved Companion William F. Kuhn carried the message of Capitular Masonry all over the country. The tributes to his memory carry with them mental pictures of this 'Grand Old Man,' as he appealed and incited his hearers to a knowledge and practice of the truths and principles we seek to inculcate in the Chapter. Did not our hearts burn within us as he took us up on the mountains of Zion and showed the way to the 'Lost Word?' He saw the vision clearly."

This will be accomplished not so much by letter perfect ritualism as by intelligent comprehension and interpretation of the soul behind the forms.

Charles L. Brockway, M.E., Grand High Priest, Sioux Falls.

George A. Pettigrew, R.E., Grand Secretary, Sioux Falls.

TENNESSEE.

M. Ex. Comp. John G. Greer, Grand High Priest.
Membership, 11,039.

Net gain, 529.

The biographical sketch of the new Grand High Priest, M. Ex. Comp. Darby, is very human in its personal touch, as witness the following with which it concludes:—

"Companion Darby was never married, but on the subject says that he never realized until the last year or two that he was old enough to think about such a thing, but now he is face to face with the issue, he hopes that if the office of Grand High Priest does not help him, it will at least not hinder him in the quest."

The Ninety-sixth Annual Convocation was held in the Scottish Rite Temple, Nashville, January 26, 1925. Twelve Past Grand High Priests were present.

Canada was represented by R. Ex. Comp. J. Leonard Wood.

The address of Grand High Priest Greer is a satisfying document. He begins with poetry but does not neglect statistics. His first verse is:—

“The year has gone ,and with it
Many a glorious throng of happy dreams,
Its mark is on each brow,
Its shadow in each heart.”

We quote further from the concluding pages of his message:—

“It has come to my knowledge during the year that some Companions who are actuated by a laudable desire for advancement are soliciting the support of Chapters and Companions, and that some Secretaries are recommending them under Chapter seal.

“This does not seem to me to be in accordance with Masonic usage, nor quite in spirit of Masonry, and I recommend that this Grand Chapter take such action in regard to this matter as to it seems desirable.

“A thousand good men and true, who are not members of the Order do us no harm, but one unworthy one does do us great evil, and I would insist that the applications for membership be carefully examined in order that only those who will be worthy members be admitted.

“If I this moment shall withhold,
The help I might be giving,
Some soul may die, and I shall lose
The sweetest joy of living.”

The Committee on Education which is the most important feature of the work of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, is much encouraged by the progress made through their dynamic campaign:—

“The inculcation of a system of education is in the very nature of things a slow process and yet the campaign of the Masonic Fraternity, begun less than four years ago, to educate its members and the public as to the deplorable condition of our rural school system, and the appalling percentage of illiteracy in Tennessee—has produced amazing results.

“We find a citizenship in our State thoroughly aroused and ready for the new era, and willing to pay almost any price to bring an equality of opportunity to all the children of Tennessee.”

The By-laws of the Grand Chapter as amended are printed in full in the Proceedings—a good feature.

R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Price represents Tennessee in Canada.

The Correspondence is again ably conducted by M. Ex. Comp. C. H. Smart, P.G.H.P. In his introduction he gives this interesting summary:—

“It may be cited the fact that in 1920 the Chapters of the United States showed a net gain in membership of nearly 26,000, which rose to nearly 87,000 in 1923, dropped to some 48,000 in 1924, and this year shows a still further decrease to about 32,000.”

California gives him much food for thought and he comments thus on Grand High Priest Humphreys’ energetic work:—

“The Grand High Priest was a sure-enough-to-gracious Grand High Priest. He did not go to the prosperous Chapters for bouquets and toadyism, but sought out those in the out-of-the-way places, whose members never saw a Grand High Priest, and hobnobbed with the poor and lowly. It goes without saying that he did a power of good for the cause, and in doing so travelled over 11,000 miles—went, as he says, from the Oregon line to the Mexican boundary and from the westernmost to the easternmost Chapter. His actions remind us of Mark Twain’s (was it Mark?) lines:—

“‘He seen his duty, a dead clear thing,
And he went for it there and then.’”

Or was it Hay?

Canada is treated both discriminatingly and generously, and we make the following extracts from his review, appreciating his words of personal encouragement:—

“The absence of so many Grand Officers was probably due to the fact that they were inappreciative of the honor they had received, but more particularly that they, being appointive officers, had no hopes for the future. The only way to achieve success is to work, work, work.

“It is a pleasure to get one’s hand on the Proceedings of a foreign Jurisdiction like Canada. Those Canuckers have no business to allow the St. Lawrence river to run between them and the United States. Why, they are one of the few Jurisdictions whose Proceedings resemble those gotten out by the Grand Secretaries of the United States—Proceedings which give a fellow something else to read besides a lot of names with high-sounding titles in front and abaft of them. The Proceedings for 1924 comes to us containing 420 pages, and reached us in less than two months after the close of

the Grand Chapter. Congratulations to the Grand Scribe E. He is next to the Grand Secretary of Tennessee in swiftness.

"The Grand Z. in his address breathes the true spirit of Royal Arch Masonry.

"Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E., reported that there were no delinquent Chapters in the Province. (Look again, Companion, there must be some mistake about this. That is not the normal condition in the United States.)"

As to our Fraternal Correspondence Report, we read:—

"For the pleasing bouquets he hurls at the head of this Scribe, we are compelled to take off our bonnet and say 'thank you.'"

As to our extract from Dr. Kuhn's address he says:—

"A lot of those Companions who call people 'cranks' for expressing such truths should read the foregoing carefully. As we write this, the Scottish Rite reunion in the Valley of Nashville is being held, and quite a number of Royal Arch Masons are working their heads off therein who, if they exerted one-tenth part of the energy in the Chapter that they do in the Scottish Rite, would set our Chapters on the boom. And what is their reward? Expectation—expectation of receiving an empty honor of K.C.C.H., and to see the other fellow get the Thirty-third.

"If there is anything in the various Jurisdictions that Companion Ponton omitted in his report, it must have been due to the fact that he turned two pages at one time."

Our confrère does not wholly approve of Quarterly Meetings, and he comments thus under Pennsylvania:—

"In all these six Convocations but sixteen and a half hours were consumed. We fail to see why one annual of two days would not be better, less expensive and secure a better attendance. But Pennsylvania is joined to her idols, so why should we worry?"

In his conclusion he sums up the work of the year by giving the total membership of the Grand Chapters reviewed as 844,811, showing a total net gain in membership of 34,479.

The Grand Secretary is after him for copy. It is a way that Grand Secretaries and Grand

Scribes E. have; and so we miss the expected Afterword, as he thus vigorously expresses it:—

“On account of this persecution by the aforesaid Grand Secretary, we are compelled to omit our peroration.”

Of the new Fraternal Correspondent of Pennsylvania he says encouragingly:—

“From the specimens of skill he has presented, we have no doubt of his ability to hold down the job, and will ask the knights of the Round Table not to stretch out and take up the space occupied by his predecessor, a la street car patrons, but to sit still in the boat and give the kid a chance to sit in.”

M. Ex. Comp. J. Winfield Darby, Covington, Grand High Priest.

R. Ex. Comp. Stith M. Cain, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

Since the above report was written your correspondent has received from M. Ex. Comp. Smart his memorial greeting as an octogenarian, and it is a pleasure to reproduce in full the poem in which he records his experiences, his inspiration and his aspiration. May his age be “like a lusty winter, frosty but kindly.”—

AT EIGHTY YEARS.

“At eighty years the hills are seeming steeper,
And consciousness of God becoming deeper;
At eighty years the shadows growing longer,
My faith and trust in Him increasing stronger;
At eighty years my friends to me are dearer—
I prize them more as parting time draws nearer;
At eighty years my early ones are fewer,
Oh, may our friendship each for all be truer;
At eighty years my comrades fast are falling,
And yet I hear the voice of Duty calling;
At eighty years I pray my skill be truer,
And my remaining work be nobler, purer;
At eighty years of life I do not weary;
No nights of waking fears, no days are dreary;
At eighty years my burdens seem the lighter,
My upward unknown journey glows the brighter.
At eighty years unfolding wonders nigher,
My vision leads me ever onward, higher.
At eighty years I thank the Almighty Giver
And trust in Him for life beyond forever.”

TEXAS.

M. Ex. Comp. Sam J. Helm, Grand High Priest.
Membership, 42,951.
Net gain, 1,351.

The striking face of M. Ex. Comp. Helm adorns the title page of the Proceedings.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Convocation was held in Waco, December 1, 1924, with a full attendance. Written greetings and regrets are noted as received from M. Ex. Comps. Davis, Malone and Ponton, and from R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith.

Ex. Comp. B. K. Hawkins, of Brentwood, is Canada's Grand Representative.

The report of Grand High Priest Helm is one of those outstanding and extraordinary messages to the whole Royal Craft that we do not apologize for making many extracts in order that our readers may catch its spirit and share its vision. He has certainly written Texas upon the Masonic map in colors that will never fade and never run. Hear him:—

"Thousands of Companions have participated in building our great fraternity and hundreds of them have given their time, thought and means in efforts which have contributed to our success. To them we owe a debt of gratitude which can be paid only with faithful, intelligent service. Faithful, intelligent service—the measure of a man's worth to himself, to Masonry, to his nation, to his God; we have had it in the past, and we have it to-day.

"Our Grand Chapter is abreast of the times, in the very forefront with the greatest Grand Chapters of the nation, and is second to none of its age. We are performing the great work for which the institution was designed, we are attuned to its principles and ideals, we have a spirit of progress which will enable us to keep step with the onward march to greater and better things. With jurisdiction over an Empire State, whose true greatness is just budding, whose population has increased from thousands to millions, whose progress in material things has been truly wonderful, let us accept our greater responsibility which enlarges with ever-increasing complexity as our vast domain advances along the path of progress.

"The Chapter is, in truth, the keystone which binds the arch, completing the symbolism which is begun, but left unfinished in the Lodge, and also preparing the brain and heart for all the remaining truths of the entire Masonic system.

"We should have, at this Grand Convocation, a sum sufficient to make the endowment fund of the Aged Masons' Home reach the half-million mark, and also a remainder which would erect the last building, provided for in the original plans. It seemed that such an accomplishment would furnish us a Home adequate for probably twenty-five years and an endowment which would make it self-sustaining.

"After a Companion visits the Home, he feels proud that he is a Royal Arch Mason. It seems that this Grand Chapter has the distinction of being the only one which maintains a Home that is open to a Master Mason who has not received the Chapter degrees, but in Texas, when the Master Mason discovers himself homeless and dependent, he finds a welcome awaiting him in this splendid institution, which was dedicated to his service on October 3, 1911, and is now ready to be completed as a monument to the Brotherhood of Man.

"The second task, undertaken at the beginning of the year, was to measure the needs of the Craft in regard to further light in Masonry, to ascertain what the various Chapters were doing to instruct their members in the philosophy and symbolism of the degree, as well as in history, laws and customs; to make an estimate of what Capitular Masonry means to the 'average' Companion, and to give him more light on the subject, a task most difficult since Masonry cannot be written, but must be written 'about.' "

Eight new Chapters were constituted by him and many Dispensations were granted and Grand Representatives appointed.

Among his decisions and answers to the Question Box, which is a feature of this Grand Chapter, are the following:—

"That the status of a Companion, who was a member of a Chapter whose Charter has been arrested, is that of non-affiliate until such time as the Charter is restored or until he affiliates with another Chapter, which he can do upon a certificate from the Grand Secretary in lieu of a demit.

"Is the divorced wife of a Master Mason entitled to protection and assistance as his widow? My notion is that a widow is a woman whose husband is dead, but you had better consult Grand Master of Masons, Houston, Texas.

"Isn't it unlawful to use 'doctored' water in the — — degree? A man who understands that degree or who appreciates even a small part of it, would burn a church down as a joke on the preacher as quickly as he would do anything to mar the solemnity of that degree. Teach them what the degree means.

"Is there any method by which we can eliminate the horse-play in the — — degree? Education is the best method; there is no place for nonsense in that degree. Teach your

ruff-stuff artists all you know about the degree; show them its beauties, its solemnity.

"Our Secretary has misappropriated our funds and will not make any effort to return them; doesn't even seem interested when you talk to him about the matter. Should the Lodge or Chapter prefer charges against him? If he is guilty, the Lodge and Chapter should vie with each other in trying to get him out first. However, suspension by the Lodge suspends him from both bodies.

"Suspended Royal Arch Masons are allowed to sit in the Commandery here; is there no way to stop it? There is an exceedingly efficient method; a note will be sent to-day, advising a certain distinguished Mason of Dallas of this practice, and perhaps his fraternal words of warning will convince your Commandery that Jacques de Molay was not the only Templar who could get into trouble. A letter to the Grand Commander of Knights Templar cured the trouble."

The Grand High Priest's letter to all the Chapters is a model of appeal and challenge to a labour of love together. We take three paragraphs as examples:—

"When a Chapter is wide-awake and active, the members fairly radiate the pleasure which they get at the Convocations, and the people of the community realize that Royal Arch Masons enjoy their fraternity. Master Masons observe this and become interested, resulting in more and better work for the Chapter. Your radio set does not bring you any music unless you 'tune-in,' neither does your Chapter. Tune in with the great caputular world and hear the marvellous messages which are sent to those who are tuned in.

"Action is the test of anything that is worth while. Knowledge is a pre-requisite to correct action. Armed with both, the Royal Arch Mason finds a field for his highest endeavour, because he can teach and practise, both within our walls and without, those sublime principles which are the enduring foundation of our fraternity, and which appeal to all good men when properly understood by them.

"Let us all join in a united effort to get the full meaning of the Chapter degrees; let us endeavour to make a button in the lapel mean that there is something in the brain and heart. It is not Masonry if it does not educate; degrees do not make real, valuable Masons. Let's help the candidate to get the milk out of the cocoanut. Let's make Masonry mean more to us, so that it will mean more to all with whom we associate."

With regard to a local difficulty, the result of which was that the Charter was arrested, he admonishes thus firmly:—

"The Royal Arch Mason should be a big man at heart, able to fight hard or forgive freely; that his countenance should be bright and reflect the heavenly light which the fraternity furnishes us, that he should live and think on a higher plane and enjoy a larger existence than the average man. Instead of this, the Chapter deteriorates into a battleground for innumerable private piques and quarrels, petty jealousies, microscopic animosities, and all of it growing out of insignificant trivialities."

He finds that only ten per cent. of Royal Arch Masons attending Grand Chapter are really well instructed, and with regard to the largely preponderating balance he says:—

"The great problem is how best to carry a Masonic education to the ninety per cent. Masonry presents such a splendid field for activity and research, its scope is so great that we shall never know all there is to know about it, a subject to which a man may devote his most profound thought for years, at all times finding it fascinating, illuminating and impelling, not only for himself, but to his Brethren and Companions. The fundamentals can be learned, however, by the other ninety per cent without long years of work; within a period of two or three years, a knowledge can be obtained which will make every Royal Arch Mason thoroughly enjoy every phase of Masonry.

"A button no more makes a Mason than a medicine-case makes a physician nor than binoculars make an admiral, and the Masonic Body which makes the greatest failure of educating its members in Masonry is the one which faces the earliest disaster. Numbers mean nothing if those numbers know nothing, and their meaning is in proportion to their knowledge"

And thus concludes:—

"Beginning at the very foundation, let us teach our symbolism from the triune feature which pervades all Nature, until its majestic sweep carries us to the greatest heights of established truth. Let us also permit the youth to feel that the keystone means much to him long before he can read the mystic motto which surrounds it. Since we are in position to do these things, now that the Home is an accomplished fact, let us undertake this great work which means so much to our fraternity, and, at the same time, benefits mankind."

The Home for Aged Masons and the home family receive much attention from our Texas Companions. All honour to them for their vision and their courage crystalized into action. They are aided by other

Masonic Bodies, and one contribution is thus acknowledged:—

“The Royal Arch Masons of Texas could not properly care for their wards were it not for this hospital which the Grand Commandery has so graciously donated to them. We request all Knights Templars over the State to visit this Home and hospital and see the service rendered to these old people by their splendid gift.”

The Grand Orator's address was upon the subject of “Masonry and Life,” and he says in his philosophic pages:—

“So with Masonry, if Masonry consists only of the words, sentences and paragraphs that go to make up the lessons we learn and impart, it is but a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. Words are the symbols of ideas, but words alone, however expressible, are dead. Nature has so arranged it that unless one feels the import of the words, he gets no real meaning from them.

“Are there no danger signals that this safeguard of democracy is being attacked? Somebody must defend the ramparts. Somebody must keep awake. Somebody must stand guard. Who better than the great brotherhood of Masons who profess to believe in these things, but who, alas, sometimes fail to give full expression to their belief in the activity they demonstrate concerning these momentous questions.”

The Committee on the Grand High Priest's report are naturally lost in admiration and find no word to criticize. They comment thus:—

“Contrary to the usual custom, our Grand High Priest has found no time to write a farewell exhortation in closing his report. He reminds us somewhat of the drummer boy who never learned to beat a retreat and likewise of the Mexican boy on the Kingsville plantation who, having been taught one morning to plow with a tractor, did not show up for his meals at noontime, or for nightfall because he could not remember how to stop the engine.

“We know how rough the road may be,
How heavy here the road may be,
We know about the barricades that lie along the track,
But we have set our soul ahead,
Upon a certain goal ahead,
And nothing left from hell to sky shall ever hold us back.”

Texas is represented in Canada by M. Ex. Comp. E. T. Malone.

Returns of each Chapter of this immense Jurisdiction are given in full with lists of membership covering many useful pages.

R. Ex. Comp. T. M. Bartley, Grand Secretary, is also the able Fraternal Correspondent. In his foreword he says, thus summarizing the true object in surveying fraternal relations:—

“We have culled from the different Jurisdictions where it seems we might benefit by emulating their example. We have offered suggestions where it seemed they might be of benefit to the Companions of other Jurisdictions. Such suggestions being offered in a spirit of helpfulness for such consideration as they merit entitles them, and not with a view of imposing our views or pretending a ‘holier than thou’ attitude on the part of our Grand Chapter.”

He deals with Canada of 1924 very encouragingly, and speaks of the Grand Z.’s address as both up-lifting and helpful. He quotes among other passages under the heading “Law of Forgiveness”:—

“May we always then be ready to remember the law of forgiveness and not the faults of a Companion. Do not let us fan the dying embers of hate into life again, but let us hold up the hands of the helpless, carry relief to the poor and needy, and greet with a hearty handshake the stranger within our door; yes, and we should not forget to rescue a fallen Companion from the gutter of grim despair, as well as smooth from the brow of sorrow the wrinkles of doubt and care.”

He quotes another paragraph and adds:—

“The time is not far distant when organizations such as ours will have to stand for something tangible in the plan of humanity or fall by the wayside.

“We wish we could copy the whole address, but we must journey on, bidding adieu with regrets.”

Of our Fraternal Correspondence he is kind enough to say:—

“Companion Ponton writes the report of fraternal correspondence, and it is as good as his other work.

“We can’t review this book. There is nothing to leave out, and we can’t copy it all. Get it from the library and read it.”

New York gives him this opportunity of gleeful comment:—

"Grand High Priest Briggs complained that too many questions were asked that could be answered with less effort by reference to the Constitution, and he suggested that every High Priest elect be placed in jail for one week and given nothing to read but the Constitution.

"It may not enlighten the High Priest but it will stop the questions."

He speaks of the address of the Grand Z. of Quebec as one of noble sentiment.

The Proceedings are well indexed.

M. Ex. Comp. Frank Holt, Waco, Grand High Priest.

R. Ex. Comp. T. M. Bartley, Waco, Grand Secretary and Grand Correspondent.

UTAH.

George W. Lynch, M.E., Grand High Priest.

Membership, 1,202.

Net gain, 62.

The handsome features of the presiding genius of Utah for 1924, 1925, adorn the Transactions.

The Fourteenth Annual Convocation was held in the Masonic Temple, Ogden, May 22nd, 1925.

A quartett in the ante-room sang "America" in which all the Brethren joined, and the quartett subsequently during the Proceedings sang also "Remember Now Thy Creator" and "Lead Kindly Light."

Grand Master Nye of Grand Lodge was officially welcomed and in his reply said:—

"We appreciate your being here; we trust you will enjoy our session. Masons of Utah need more and more to become closely cemented and we shall be pleased to co-operate in every way we can for the greatest good for all."

The Sovereign Grand Inspector of the Scottish Rite was also received and in response said:—

"It is conducive to the right spirit that should exist in all Masonic bodies here in this State; as I have oftentimes said, it is more important than in any other Jurisdiction in this United States that all Masons should be brought closer to each other than in any other Jurisdiction, and whenever any institution meets, if that institution is right and founded on the right principles, it always strengthens that organiza-

tion, and, owing to the peculiar conditions that exist in this State, Masons are bound together a little stronger, work a little better."

Canada was represented by the new M.E. Grand High Priest, John C. Brown, of Ogden.

Among the Grand Representatives who responded to the welcome was the Representative of Louisiana who reported as follows (something new in statecraft) :—

"I am requested to say to this body that the condition of Masonry in that Jurisdiction is most excellent; they are preparing to build a temple at a cost of approximately \$1,000,000; they also carried the last election of the State; the Lieutenant-Governor is a member of the Craft, as well as a number of other men holding public office."

The Grand High Priest in his address said:—

"In this beautiful city of Ogden where on every side we are reminded of, and have visible evidence of, the wondrous beauties of God's handiwork, let us pause, and rejoice for His goodness to us, ever remembering to be grateful to Him."

Here is his ideal:—

"By the people and for the people, where peace reigns, and the struggle and suffering of oppression are unknown."

"While perhaps we would prefer to report a larger increase in our numbers, but considering that the general slackness of commerce still remains with us to a perceptible extent, we are encouraged, for it has been only by persistent and consistent endeavour that we are able to report a substantial gain."

Of Dr. Kuhn's last visit he says:—

"At the Union Depot at Ogden we bade him farewell and God speed on his homeward trip—the last hand-shake here below for us with this wonderful man and Mason. His visit with us, which was the last Grand Chapter he visited, will long be cherished in our memory.

"We attended this Triennial Convocation. The sessions were busy ones, something of interest taking place all the time. One is indeed fortunate who is privileged to attend a Triennial Convocation and meet the wonderful men and bright Masonic minds; he finds them pleasant, hospitable, easily approached, and with a few days association,, regards them as old friends, not as newly-made acquaintances.

Officially the Grand High Priest visited all the Chapters and some of them unofficially two or three times.

With regard to the positive knowledge required that a Companion is in good standing in a Blue Lodge, the Grand High Priest said:—

“We believe that a Companion will think twice before he certifies to that which is not true, and some will take chances when the Certificate is not required. I believe you can see the importance and the safeguard of the Certificate, where positive knowledge of the Companion’s Blue Lodge standing is not known to you.”

As to Scottish Mark Master Masons he says:—

“In this case a visitor would not be entitled to visit any of the Degrees he has not had conferred upon him. It is therefore obvious that in examining visitors hailing from Foreign Jurisdictions, great care should be exercised.”

Among his recommendations is the following:—

“I recommend that the By-Laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter be amended so that the date of our Grand Chapter Convocation precedes by one day the date of the Grand Commandery Conclave of Knights Templar of Utah, and that said Convocation be held at the same place as the Grand Commandery Conclave. This will insure a larger representation at each of these important gatherings.”

And he quoted this resolution with regard to solicitation for higher Degrees:—

“No Master Mason shall solicit for said higher degree from any Mason who has not been a Master Mason in good standing for at least one year prior to such solicitation.”

The Committee on Memorials gave a full and poetical report from which we take the following extracts:—

“The sweetest songs ever written are woven around the story of sadness, and the lesson we should learn from it all is that the loss of our friends and Companions should teach us to more fully appreciate those that remain.

“During the year ‘the iron tongue of midnight hath tolled twelve’ for many of our Companions. It is useless to try to measure our loss in words.”

"Banners of northern lights for them loom greener,
Waving as waves the sea-weeds streamered head;
Where bent the swaying wheat, the sun-burned gleaner
Will find in their remembrance flowers red.
Oh, life must be immortal for their sakes;
Oh, earth will rest them gently 'till they wake."

The Grand Secretary has been ill and thus expresses gratitude to those who stood by:—

"I am deeply indebted to the Companions, who so willingly came forward and carried on the work I was unable to perform, also cheer me during the hours of afflictions which made the burden easier to bear."

The Grand Lecturer among other things said:—

"In carrying out this policy, numerous visits have been made and schools of instruction held—particularly in the new Chapters where much valuable assistance has been rendered to me, and to the Chapters by the splendid and able work of a number of dependable, all-round ritualists, whom we lovingly speak of as 'pinch-hitters.'"

"Then brother man, fold to thy heart, thy brother,
For where love dwells, the peace of God is there.
To worship rightly, is to love each other,
Each smile a hymn, each kindly deed, a prayer."

Instead of a jewel a valuable and handsome watch was presented to the retiring Grand High Priest which was gracefully acknowledged, the Grand High Priest saying among other things:—

"I do know that a lot of money is tied up in jewels that we seldom see. Your token to me is something that will be with me every day that I continue to travel this rough and rugged road and I shall be many many times reminded of my association with you excellent gentlemen. I do appreciate it more than I can express."

The Grand High Priest-elect and the Deputy Grand High Priest both spoke, the latter saying:—

"I believe I have said all I have to say. Although I am a lawyer and am supposed to be ready at all times to say something, I believe this day is just about complete and should I say anything more it might be spoiled.

"I feel that one of the most important objects of life is this,—to get as much pleasure of our association and communion with our fellowman as we can, and do them a little good and brighten their way a little as we go along if we can."

M. Ex. Comp. A. S. Gorrell represents Utah near Canada.

The Correspondence Report is by Ex. Comp. W. F. Buckley, who in his introduction says that he has reviewed fifty Grand Chapters and thus introduces them:—

"I have again had great pleasure in getting into mental touch with those interesting men who write the reports, and have had the pleasure of knowing what Royal Arch Masons all over the land, the world in fact, are doing and thinking. If there is any note that runs through all Jurisdictions, any one movement that all seem to be responding to, it is that there is an awakening interest in things spiritual.

"Most of the leaders are trying to emphasize and drive home to the Companions that their individual welfare and relationship to God depends upon their taking an active interest in the affairs of the world and through that interest industriously giving themselves to active effort toward the moral and spiritual, as well as physical, welfare of the people of the land."

From Illinois he takes this sentence:—

"There is no more important product than character, and the production of character is therefore the most important business in the world. Our main business is to increase the values that are found about us."

North Dakota gives him this opportunity:—

"The Ritual is fine, but in time it becomes a formal routine, and when not well presented, as is, we regret to say, frequently the case, it becomes positively objectionable. We must have better ritualism, more dramatic fervour, more realism, but beyond this we cannot furnish in our Chapters, and what we say of Chapters is equally true of every other Masonic Body, greater opportunity to get together in a friendly sort of way and drink from the fountain of brotherly love and spiritual inspiration."

From Rhode Island he quotes the words of Washington:—

"To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy the benevolent design of a Masonic Institution; and it is most fervently to be wished that the conduct of every member of the Fraternity as well as those publications that discourse the principles that actuate them, may tend to convince mankind

that the great object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race."

He thus introduces Texas of magnificent area:—

"Holding office here is a task as well as an honour, and all honour must be rendered to the men who have and do so handle the great undertakings of the Grand Chapter of Texas. Brevity is one of the requirements placed upon the Grand Correspondent for Utah, yet how can one report the Proceedings of Texas in a few lines."

Under Canada he speaks of the interesting addresses of welcome to distinguished visitors and quotes approvingly two paragraphs from Grand Z. Spencer's address.

With regard to our report he says:—

"The long and most interesting report of the Committee on Capitular Masonry is printed in full. "All along the line we note the loyal note struck by the Companions of this Royal and law-abiding Craft. No anarchy, no rebellion against constituted authority, no demagogues dallied with or fanatics tolerated. We express ourselves with no uncertain sound."

Quebec receives a favourable review with this comment:—

"It appears to me that in all of the Chapters, the Companions believe that their 'best asset' is a reputation for turning out 'good work.' It appears to me that Quebec has a mighty good Grand Lecturer and one who is doing good self-sacrificing work."

From his conclusion we take the following:—

"I have deep hope that this report may be worthy of a place alongside those others, and that it may bring a little of pleasure and profit to its readers."

The Fifteenth Annual Convocation will be held at Salt Lake City, May 28th, 1926.

M.E. John C. Brown, Ogden, Grand High Priest.

R.E. Walter Daniels, Salt Lake City, Grand Secretary.

A. C. Emerson, Ogden, Assistant Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

Archie S. Harriman, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.
Membership, 5,982.
Net gain, 21.

The One Hundred and Eighth Annual Convocation convened in Masonic Temple, Burlington, 9th June, 1925.

Canada was represented by Comp. Charles W. Whitcomb.

Distinguished visitors from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York were received with grand honours, and we are told that:—

“At a later hour in the session each of these visiting Companions addressed the Grand Chapter to the decided interest and profit of the latter.”

Ten Past Grand High Priests gave their experience of the past to the service of the present.

The Grand High Priest says among other wise comments:—

“Here we are to deliberate on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in our Green Mountain State, take such action for the good of the Royal Craft as circumstances may warrant, and so order our law, usage, and deliberations as shall redound to the good of all Royal Arch Masons within our Jurisdiction.

“With one exception, the District Deputies appointed at our last Annual Convocation have proven their worth and have justified their appointment.”

The reunion of peaceful relations with Scotland is thus spoken of:—

“I would respectfully urge this Grand Chapter to approve the interchange of representatives in renewing those fraternal relations with the Grand Chapter of Scotland which we all hope will never again be disrupted.”

He surrenders his trust in good spirits and says:—

“I wish to thank you for the trust you reposed in me. The service has not been severe. The honours of office have been most pleasant. Especially have I enjoyed the opportunity to extend my acquaintance among the Craft throughout the State.”

From the report of the Grand Lecturer we take the following pregnant paragraphs:—

“Subordinate Chapters need one thing—that is leadership. If a Chapter has an active and efficient High Priest who pursues his duties with interest and encourages his associates to aid him, it is safe to wager that such a Chapter is in good condition. The choice of officers is of far-reaching importance and is worthy of careful consideration.”

The Capitular Review of Proceedings is by Ex. Comp. Henry Lincoln Ballou, whom we welcome to the Table Round. Very little escapes his eye.

Under Alabama he says:—

“We wonder why one Chapter, that meets regularly twice a month, should have been granted at five separate dates during the year a dispensation to ballot out of time and confer the capitular degrees. It looks from this distance like crowding the moll.”

He thus parries a thrust under Arkansas:—

“Under Vermont for 1923, he says: ‘There was no report on the Order of High Priesthood.’ We would respectfully refer him to pages 44 and 45 of the Proceedings of 1923 for the same. We find none in Arkansas for 1923, although we have made strict search throughout the apartments of the Temple and among the rubbish, but find no trace of such an organization.”

Occurrences recorded in California’s Proceedings suggest to him the following:—

“The two principal problems of a Chapter, securing candidates and securing a reasonable attendance, called forth from the Grand High Priest the comment that no Master Mason can petition for the Chapter degrees until he has been raised six months, he should be interviewed during the period and given literature on the York Rite, and that Chapters cannot expect attendance unless the degrees are conferred with accuracy and dignity, and that in addition to the degrees the Chapter occasionally provides some interesting and attractive features.”

We thank him for his favourable review of Canada, from which we take the following pleasant extracts:—

“The Proceedings, covering 430 pages, show that Capitular Masonry takes itself seriously in Canada and is doing a great work in the practise of genuine brotherhood and the promotion of the highest morals.

"The finances of the Grand Chapter continue impressive, amounting to nearly seventy thousand dollars.

"The excellent address of the Grand Z. was supplemented by the reports of the Grand Superintendents which occupy a hundred pages, showing how important these officers are to the successful functioning of the Craft.

"Our Canadian Companions have, during the past year, attended Divine Service in Regalia to a greater extent than ever before, thereby setting all Masons an example that might well be emulated.

"The report on Fraternal Correspondence is written by that able Masonic scholar, Comp. Ponton, It is full of interesting material and covers 172 pages. Vermont for 1923 is given three pages. Grand High Priest Root and Grand Lecturer Crannell are both quoted with approbation. He approves of our publishing a list of the officers of the Grand Chapter from the date of organization as he considers it a fine method of perpetuating their memory."

The hat question again looms up under the Report of the General Grand Chapter and he says:—

"The General Grand High Priest has rendered a decision that a High Priest of a Chapter should not be covered when opening the Chapter or presiding over the business session of the Chapter. This was not approved of by the General Grand Chapter and a High Priest may continue to exercise his prerogative of wearing a hat as his predecessors have done for years before him."

Our confrère is an optimist and does not altogether approve of what he finds in Kansas. He quotes and writes as follows:—

"It is a deplorable fact that Capitular Masonry seems to have absorbed some of the spirit of the times. This is especially true in the matter of disrespect, disregard and contempt for Masonic law and constituted authority. The mad race for pleasure is in many of our Chapters.

"The warning may be timely and there may be much truth in what he says, but we are inclined to think he took a rather too gloomy view of the situation."

Texas Grand Chapter sets a noble example in practical philanthropy thus quoted:—

"The report of the Board of Directors of the Home for Aged Masons showed a most satisfactory condition. The endowment fund is nearly a half million dollars and all departments appear to be in a flourishing condition. It is a great charity."

A list of Past Grand High Priests and other Grand Officers of Vermont from the date of organization in 1804 is of historic value, and the nomenclature alone forms an interesting study.

The veteran R. Ex. Comp. James B. Nixon, of Toronto, represents Vermont in Canada.

The next Annual Convocation will be held in Burlington, June 8, 1926.

M. Ex. Comp. Roger S. Pike, Grand High Priest, Rutland.

R. Ex. Comp. Henry H. Ross, Grand Secretary, Burlington.

VICTORIA.

M. Em. Companion William Alfred Callaway, First Grand Principal.

Membership, 3,275.

Net gain, 401.

The Proceedings are printed throughout in brilliant red, appropriate to the Royal Craft but not attractive or restful to the reader's eye.

R.E. Comp. Joseph W. Hickson represents Victoria in Canada, and R. Ex. Comp. John Byatt, of the Education Department, Melbourne, represents Canada in Victoria.

A Convocation holden at Freemasons' Hall, Melbourne, July 16th, 1924, was to use their own phrase,—“opened in Ample, Antient and Solemn Form.”

The Proceedings of Canada, 1924, are officially acknowledged.

At the close of the general business a solo, “The Task,” was sung.

A Convocation was held at Melbourne, October 15th, 1924.

Canada's representative was not present.

It was announced that four new Chapters would be constituted during the next few weeks, each having a long list of candidates awaiting exaltation.

The Committee of General Purposes deplores the discord then existing between Scotland and New South Wales and offers to be a friendly intermediary but to encourage the formation of an independent Grand Chapter.

Three Guineas were fixed as the minimum exaltation fee.

The centre of the book of Proceedings is worthily occupied by an extract from one of the wonderful addresses of the late M. Ex. Companion William K. Kuhn, who has been summoned to rest. It is entitled "What of the Hour?" The following extract will prove that it is good in substance and in form:—

"Freemasonry to-day means more than negative plaudits and negative principles. She stands pre-eminently as a living, growing, resistless power whose end and aim is the exaltation of Man and the glory of 'The I.A.T.I.A.'"

"But in the building of this City of the Brotherhood of Man and this spiritual Temple of ours, what portion of the Work are you willing to undertake? Are you willing to quarry the rough ashlar? Are you willing to be a burden-bearer? Are you willing to work in the trenches and lay the foundation stones, away down from the sight and applause of man? . . . Where are the claimants of the Crow, the Pick, and the Spade?"

"Royal Arch Masonry would answer,—'Any portion of the Work, be it ever so humble.' It is a willing service, a self-denying service. . . . If there is one great truth that Royal Arch Masonry teaches above all others, it is that labour is honourable, be it ever so humble; that he who would wear the Crown must earn it; that he who would rule must first learn to obey; that he who would enter the Sanctum Sanctorum of Freemasonry must enter by self-denying toil; and its doors will swing open as readily for the peasant as for the prince, for the subject as for the King."

"The Royal Arch is a part of the Master's Degree—the summit of its excellency. The Master's Degree without the Royal Arch is a story half told, a song half sung, a promise unfulfilled; . . . and without it no Master Mason is in possession of all that Freemasonry teaches. In the Ritual it stands as the Rainbow of Promise,—the promise of the resurrection,—of that which was lost and which shall be recovered."

A Convocation was held at Melbourne, January 21st, 1925.

Canada's representative was not present.

The following graceful nomination was made of his successor by the First Grand Principal:—

“The First Grand Principal nominated as his successor in office R. Em. Comp. Thomas Mackenzie Kirkwood, P.G.H. M. Em. Comp. Callaway said that that inevitable time had arrived when the mantle of Elijah must fall upon Elisha, and it afforded him peculiar pleasure to make this nomination because of his long-standing friendship for Comp. Kirkwood.”

A Convocation was held in Melbourne, April 22nd, 1925.

Canada's representative was not present.

Several new Chapters were reported as consecrated.

The Most Excellent Grand Z. gave a stirring address, from which we make the following extracts:—

“From time to time evidence reaches us from some Chapters of the acceptance of office by Companions either too indifferent or too indolent to properly qualify themselves in the Work and Lectures pertaining to such offices.

“Then there is the Companion who allows himself to be elected to a Principal's Chair and openly declares that he does not propose to take the trouble to learn the Lectures pertaining to such Chair. And there is the unfortunate Companion whose lack of education leads to the omission or mispronunciation of essential words and phrases and the failure to himself comprehend the instruction he is attempting to impart to the Candidate. Any Companion unable or unwilling to perform the duties of an office with reasonable efficiency should not be appointed to office or promoted to higher responsibility; and the Principals and Companions of every Chapter should remember that in their hands rest, not only the well-being of their own Chapter, but the reputation and usefulness of Capitular Masonry throughout this territory. Grand Chapter is ever anxious to refrain from any interference with the internal affairs of the Constituent Chapters, and there will be no such intervention if in the selection of their Principals and Officers the Members of every Chapter will demand efficiency, zeal, and common sense.

“I feel strongly that nothing on earth is more worthy of the highest and most devoted effort than the diffusion of the principles of the Holy Royal Arch. It is a matter of the deepest gratification to me that amid the multitude of stories exchanged during our travels there has been no suggestion of impropriety, and I take this opportunity of enforcing the fact that purity is one of our basic principles.

"My association with them will remain a most fragrant memory, and I trust my successor may gain as full a measure of happiness as I have done."

Visitors from New South Wales were cordially welcomed.

It is to be noted that Eminent is used in place of Excellent in the titles of Grand Chapter Officers in Victoria.

M. Em. Comp. Thomas Mackenzie Kirkwood,
First Grand Principal.

R. Ex. Comp. John E. Kennedy, P.G.H., Melbourne.

VIRGINIA.

William Frank Bowden, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 17,439.

Net gain, 674.

The One Hundred and Eighteenth Convocation convened in Richmond, October 27, 1925, and among those present were of course the two outstanding figures of Virginia Chapter Masonry, namely M. Ex. Comp. John. T. Cochrane, Grand Lecturer, and R. Ex. Comp. Joseph W. Eggleston, Fraternal Correspondent and Grand Treasurer of Grand Lodge.

Among the Grand Representatives received was M. Ex. Comp. A. L. Mattern who represented Canada.

The Grand High Priest in his address said:—

"I am pleased to report that peace, harmony and the best of companionship prevails, and I feel that every Royal Arch Mason is, or is trying to do his duty and live up to his obligation."

Of one who had passed the veils he said:—

"Every branch of Masonry throughout this Grand Jurisdiction enjoyed the benefits of his wise counsel and ever willing efficient service which will immortalize his memory to the end of time, without the aid of stone or script."

He spoke feelingly of the death of M. Ex. Comp. Cutchins, an outstanding figure in the Royal Craft,

and he speaks of the deaths in sister Jurisdictions where the scythe of time has cut the brittle thread of life.

Grand Representatives in Virginia are appointed for life.

Among his many visitations he speaks of crossing one of Nature's beautiful hills to the Warm Springs Chapter where he found 80 per cent. of the members present and some had come a distance of 50 miles over rough mountain roads on horse back, and adds "and now that is what I call going some for our great cause."

He granted Dispensations for three new Chapters.

Among his decisions the following may be found of interest:—

"I advised the High Priest of that Chapter that a Dispensation was not necessary as any Master Mason in good standing is eligible to receive the Chapter degrees, provided the Chapter, in whose Jurisdiction he resides, will accept him."

Of the Grand Lecturer he says:—

"Moulded and fitted to the work in which he is engaged with that exact nicety surely seems more the work of the Supreme Grand High Priest than that of a man, . . . that can only be expressed as a monument of living stones that will perpetuate unto all ages his great labor for mankind in general and the Royal Craft in particular."

He speaks highly of the Masonic Home of Virginia, of which he is a member of the Board of Governors.

He praises the District Deputies. He says, however, that in some cases "procrastination to some extent claimed its own."

He recommends that one year's assessment of \$1.00 each be given to the Educational Fund, and four years to the Old Folks' Home, and thus closes:—

"To my successor: I have tried to put in perfect order the vineyard that he may reap a bountiful harvest."

M. Ex. Comp. Darrow, of Pennsylvania, and M. Ex. Comp. Payne, of North Carolina, were heartily

welcomed as well as the Grand Master of Virginia, M.W. Bro. Callahan who, by the way, conceived the idea of the great George Washington Masonic Memorial.

The Grand Lecturer speaks of one Chapter to which he had to devote six days in getting enough present to open the Chapter, although candidates were present, and thus comments on dissipation of energies:—

“The members are able to confer all the degrees. Nothing wrong here—simply a case of interest centred elsewhere.”

He thus graphically describes a wonderful ceremony at Norfolk, progressive and productive:—

“It appears that early in the spring, the officers conceived the idea of exalting one hundred candidates in one day, to be known as the Wm. Frank Bowden Class, in honor of their Grand High Priest, the founder and sponsor for this new Chapter. Therefore, during the early spring the subordinate degrees only were conferred. On May 23rd, the Chapter had one hundred and twelve candidates ready for the Royal Arch degree. I was invited to be present to witness the conferring of the degrees upon this large class and can truthfully say that I have never seen the work done in a more perfect and impressive way. The teams were prepared, the alarm given and the candidates began their journey, passing from room to room until received in the East. Teams followed each other at intervals of fifteen minutes. Absolutely nothing was abbreviated or omitted. All of the ritualistic work was given by trained workers. Father Joachim, Mayor of Charlottesville, sent a barrel of delicious Albemarle pippins to the ante-room for the candidates, which they certainly enjoyed, while waiting to begin their haardous journey over the ‘rough and rugged roads.’”

This new Chapter had 520 on its rolls last year and this year will report nearly 700 and is already the third largest Chapter in the State.

He thus summarizes his work and concludes:—

“For the first time during the seven years of my work as Lecturer, I have been able to visit every Chapter in the State—some several times.

“I attribute this happy condition to the superb proficiency in the ritual of the officers and members of our Chapters.

“Am therefore pleased to report that Capitular Masonry in Virginia was never in a more flourishing and healthy condition, and has attained that high mark of popularity and

usefulness it so justly and rightly deserves. Our devotees are earnest and enthusiastic and now fully recognize and appreciate the important position the Royal Arch degree occupies in the Masonic world, 'the summit of Ancient Craft Masonry.' "

The Committee on the Grand High Priest's address says:—

"We commend him for his zeal in the discharge of his duties, and his fidelity to a trust that lays heavy burdens on the conscience of him who would be a workman that needeth not to be ashamed."

The salary of the Grand Lecturer was increased to \$3,600.

The Grand Council of Anointed High Priests met as usual.

Then followed the condensed reports of the District Deputies which concentrated to a very essence.

R. Ex. Comp. Douglas Ponton, of Toronto, represents Virginia near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The nominal roll of each constituent Chapter is given in full.

The Fraternal Correspondence is by the genial and experienced veteran, R. Ex. Comp. Joseph W. Eggleston. We take the following from his review of Alabama:—

"Virginia sat tight and waited for the reaction which came in due time and everything has been lovely since. Two can quarrel but one cannot. We thank the reviewer for the word 'spicy and readable report.' We wish we could make it more so."

And this from Arkansas:—

"We are not in accord with a decision that a dimit must be granted by a vote at a stated Convocation. A Companion not under charges and clear on the books is entitled to a dimit as a matter of right, and it cannot justly be refused unless charges are preferred then and there."

The wonderful individuality of our colleague and his pungent pen are well illustrated from his review of California, from which we take the following extracts as of general interest:—

"Perhaps another factor was one that still obtains all over the land, viz.: the anxiety to be known as a 'thirty-

second degree Mason' with a longing to write thirty-third. The profane world accepts these as real distinctions and supposes that those who can claim these distinctions are really 'High Masons.'

"Of course we know better. The Royal Arch is another story, for it is a great development of Masonry proper, whether or not the discovery of what has been lost is real, the whole of the Chapter degrees, including the Cryptic, as Virginia does, add much to the understanding of Masonry. The same can be said of those of the Scottish Rite but not in so simple and understandable a form. The lamentable fact is that this 'High Mason' foolish craze does work harm to the Chapter in many cases. It does no good to the Scottish Rite, for those whose motives are so low are no real gain. The above, on second thought, is somewhat of a Hibernianism, for a man with motives so contemptible would be equally worthless to the Chapter.

"Poor attendance may, he thinks, be remedied if the Chapters and Lodges would elect as Masters only those Brethren who have sufficient ability, education, energy, intelligence and vision to make their meetings so attractive that a large attendance will naturally ensue, we must remember that we are confronted with a condition, and not a theory.

"The latest number of *The Builder* came to hand while this review was being written. In it was a long article containing the views of many Grand Masters. Most of them think that the question should be one for Grand Chapters and Inspectors General and not for Grand Lodges. Our personal view is that those who are newly raised should exercise their own good sense. The great mistake is the yielding to those who speak of 'higher degrees in Masonry.' There are no higher degrees. They are degrees in other organizations related to Masonry and should be so considered. True, some Grand Lodges recognize the other organizations basing their membership on Masonic affiliation almost to the point of including the Order of the Eastern Star, and treat them as 'Sisters,' but we think it all wrong. Every tub should stand on its own bottom."

Canada is favourably reviewed and he, as other reviewers do, quotes from Controller Cameron's outstanding address of welcome.

Of Grand Z. Spencer's address he says and quotes:—

"May we always then be ready to remember the law of forgiveness and not the faults of a Companion.

"But the vital and vivifying principle of true fraternity is the element of companionship, sympathy and co-operation, the ability and willingness to sacrifice for the good of the

whole those personal interests which may be at variance with the interests of the Order.

"Were the above our fixed practice, Masonry could do far more for the betterment of the human race than is now done. We suggest that it be read twice at least and thought over and acted upon."

From the address to us of M. Ex. Comp. Core, of Pennsylvania, he quotes:—

"In the South we do not believe that Freemasonry is confined to the conferring of degrees and charity, but that we as citizens have rights and that we are bound to be good citizens and do our best for the upbuilding and betterment of our community.

"This is a feeling that is gaining ground, and in the great Middle West States and in the extreme West there is a great deal working that is of a Socialistic tendency. My conception of our duties is this: 'I believe in the individual responsibility of a man for his own well-being and not expect government interference to make him a Christian or a saint, or to make him healthy and independent.'"

On our review of Virginia he thus comments:—

"He said that 'Carry Me Back to Old Virginny' was a favourite song in Canada, and that after reading our gentle rebuke of one of the correspondents for merely recapitulating our statistics and acts, he would appreciate it more than ever.

"We happen to know that he is a man of great literary capacity, from outside evidence.

"Now we plead that we could not have had his volume in time and that last year we did what we could for his 1923 volume, and also that he seems to be somewhat in arrears himself as regards Virginia."

Under District of Columbia of course Roe Ful-
kerson appeals to him, as he does to all of us, and he reprints a large portion of his address, concluding thus:—

"That's all. I submit it without apology. I have tried hard not to violate Rule Five of the legislature of my native State of Tennessee, which reads, 'Do not take yourself too seriously.' But I have taken the position of Grand High Priest seriously and step down from it in the hope that you will approve this record.

"A little sun, a little rain,
A little loss, a little gain,
A little joy, a little strife,
And this is life.

A little work, a little play,
One kind deed done each passing day,
A few good-byes, a setting sun,
And life is done.

"Johnstone wrote a sketch of Fulkerson which the Companions will enjoy because he was smart enough to turn it into an autobiography."

From Comp. Jermane's comments on Virginia he quotes:—

"And then Companion Eggleston added: 'The only trouble seems to be to find enough work for his tireless energy.'

"I have no doubt that this statement is literally true, and because it is true, I advise the Virginia Grand Chapter to keep M. Ex. Comp. Cochrane in the harness as long as it can. He is a real prize, 18 karats fine, and his like is not seen in many of the Grand Jurisdictions."

Under Massachusetts his wisdom and humour come out:—

"Companion Comee reviewed Virginia 1923. Like all the rest he noticed M. Ex. Comp. Greenlay pleads business as his excuse for so few visits. If he had to read all these reviews, he would regret having told on himself. He might then have been thought a very active Grand High Priest, as he otherwise was. We once knew a negro woman told soon after the war to whip her boy the master had caught stealing. The master listened, and while she was beating the boy efficiently, she was interlarding her blows with 'I ain't givin' you nary a lick for stealin'. Ise beatin' you fer being sich a fool as to get kitched.'

"We would like to see our Grand Masters wear the three-cornered hat as does the Grand Master of Massachusetts, perhaps because of its antiquity only."

He has distinct views on physical perfection which he thus voices under Minnesota:—

"Our view is that, for the sake of antiquity, the ancient restrictions on physical lines should be adhered to as to profanes seeking admission, but as to them only. Once told that he there stands a just and upright Mason, a man has vested rights that we should regard. To hold otherwise would logically require that we expel all our members who are so unfortunate as to lose a limb."

North Carolina gives him the opportunity for telling another illustrative story which he thus voices:—

"M. Ex. Comp. J. J. Mattern seems to have issued some dispensations not approved of by the North Carolina Scribe. However, this is the case frequently as to Indiana, but somehow Old Virginia has long had a way of making laws for Virginia not subject to revision by others. Our customs, older than most others, suit us and will have to be continued regardless of outside criticism. We will venture to tell an apt story again as we have done before, finding no other illustration to suit the situation so well. Those who have heard it before will bear in mind the adage, 'No gentleman ever heard a story before.'

"Once upon a time two little negroes met me at a spring. One of them said, 'I don't see how you does stand your mistis,' she does quall and quall till you can hear her plumb over to we house.' The other replied, 'Dant ain't nothin' tall, 'tis music in my ear.'

"Make your own application, reader, while Virginian Grand High Priests and Grand Masters are making some more mistakes in the intimation of those not so fully authorized to 'rule and govern.'"

M. Ex. Comp. Edward A. Joachim, Charlottesville, Grand High Priest.

R. Ex. Comp. J. Gus Hankins, Richmond, Grand Secretary.

R. Ex. Comp. Chas. A. Nesbit, Richmond, Deputy Grand Secretary.

Since the above was written this Reviewer has enjoyed the bountiful hospitality and the traditional chivalry and courtesy of the Richmond, Virginia, Brethren and Companions, and he found them all that correspondence led him to anticipate and that expectation had painted in glowing colours. Words are inadequate to express the kindness shown to the representative of "Canada," whose privilege and pleasure it was to give our Southern Brethren "a voice from the North."

W. N. P.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Samuel R. Holroyd, M.E. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 11,913.

Net gain, 475.

The Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Bluefield, 10th and 11th November, 1924. Ten Past Grand High Priests graced the East.

Canada's Representative did not answer the roll call.

The address of the Grand High Priest is one of the shortest which your reviewer has yet met. He says in part:—

"It is with much pleasure and pride that I express to you my heartiest greeting. Once more we have gathered to clasp hands in the bonds of brotherhood; to mingle in the sweet communion of fellowship, and to cluster round this old altar and feel that 'All is well.' The significance of so notable a circumstance is such that we may well rejoice on this occasion."

As so many Grand High Priests do, he reports fully upon the great meeting of the General Grand Chapter held at Portland and of the sudden death of Dr. Kuhn. He concludes his address with the following verse:—

"The work I've done is with you. Maybe some things went wrong;

Like a note that mars the music, in the sweet flow of a song.
But friends, when you think of me, I only wish you would
Say as the Master said of one: 'He hath done what he
could.'"

The Grand Secretary reports upon the liberality with which the Proceedings have heretofore been distributed in West Virginia as follows:—

"At present we are sending to each Chapter from six to twenty-five copies of the Proceedings, every year. It is doubtful if many of these are read, and we notice that most of the Grand Chapters send only three copies to each Subordinate Chapter."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence says with regard to the dove of peace hovering over Scotland and the United States of America:—

"With the removal of these discords, Royal Arch Masonry has not for years enjoyed a more happy and harmonious condition."

Excellent portraits of all the Grand Officers, a striking looking lot of men, occupies an infold in the Proceedings.

From the Report of the Committee on Necrology I take the following as out of the ordinary:—

"The Compass of Life is difficult to box and set forth the points of departure and the way of the ending.

"If we could box the compass of existence, we might learn the beginning and the ending, and the finite dimly envision the infinite.

"They have gone to the mysterious bourne. We are here amid the trials and tribulations of the varying duties and demands of the living. We have lost. We sorrow. We mourn. The Dead piloted by Hope, and steering by the Star of Faith have gone beyond our vision."

R.E. Comp. Alexander Cowan, of Barrie, represents West Virginia, and Fred. C. Steinbicker, of Wheeling, represents Canada in West Virginia.

Full lists of membership of all Constituent Chapters fill many pages.

The Order of High Priesthood appears to be in a flourishing condition.

The Review of Fraternal Proceedings is from the able pen of M. Ex. Comp. George M. Ford.

The following decision from Alabama calls for his comment:—

"Question: Brother was elected to the Chapter Degree, received the Mark Master and Past Master Degrees and was stopped by a Companion of the Chapter from further advancement. He now requests a dimit.

"Ruling: That the Brother be granted a dismissal certificate and one-half of the fees paid by him be refunded.

"While not the usual custom, we heartily concur with the view. In many Jurisdictions the Chapter holds perpetual jurisdiction, and at times spite work, or petty personal prejudice will keep out a Brother who would prove an honour to the Craft."

From Alberta he quotes this verse:—

"To leave some simple work behind,
To keep my having lived in mind.
If enmity to aught I show,
To be an honest, generous foe."

California has been holding some al fresco meetings thus reported:—

"Outdoor meetings were held during the year in a secluded spot on the ranch of some Companion.

"One meeting held on a ranch in Marin County, fully 700 Companions were present."

Of the address of Canada's Grand Z. he said:—

"A strong advocate for the sponsoring of the Order of De Molay.

"Isn't it strange that some of our Grand Chapters are opposing this order, when no logical excuse has or can be given, for the opposition.

And as to the reports of the Grand Superintendents he has nothing but praise:—

"One cannot but be impressed with the reports of the Grand Superintendents (corresponding to our D.D.G.L.). They are without exception, 'on the job,' and we think the idea of having a detailed report of visits paid to each Chapter fine. This method not only helps the Grand High Priest, giving him "first hand" information regarding the condition of the Subordinate Chapters, but the publication of these reports keep the Companions throughout the Jurisdiction posted as to the existing conditions and stimulates the Chapters to make a good showing."

He further says in his review of Canada:—

"The Benevolence Committee reports dispensing \$3,090.00, a good report and one we always enjoy reading. It is sad to say, but we must admit our Grand Bodies are lax in this particular.

"William N. Ponton, Past Grand Z., writes the review of other Grand Chapters, and does it well and interestingly, devoting more than one page to this Grand Chapter. The writer thanks him for his kind words in referring to our review."

West Virginia still confers in the Royal Arch, Cryptic Council Degrees and our confrère has frequently to wield a lance in defence of the practice which does not receive approval in other Jurisdictions.

Massachusetts as well as West Virginia and other Jurisdictions have tightened up in their discipline of recreant Secretaries who have not made returns from Constituent Chapters and we find the following:—

"This Grand Chapter has adopted a resolution, penalizing Chapters, if returns are not received on time.

"The offending Chapter is denied representation at the Annual Convocation and expenses and per diem forfeited.

"This is the first year and it has worked out fine."

Saskatchewan's careful and educative procedure is thus praised:—

"Five dispensations granted. All minor, from a portion of the address of the Grand Z. it is inferred that candidates are compelled to undergo an examination before advancement. We hope this is correct and would like to see this a law in all Grand Chapters. There are too many Royal Arch Masons in name only."

The Proceedings are well indexed.

James A. Bryan, Parkersburg, M.E. Grand High Priest.

G. M. Ford, Wheeling, R.E., Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

Bernard F. Kellar, M. Ex. High Priest.

Membership, 23,446.

Net gain, 1,085.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Convocation was opened in the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Milwaukee, February 17, 1925.

From the able address of the Grand High Priest a few paragraphs may be quoted:—

"However much I might desire to change it, to fortify it with greater accomplishment, to adorn it with more beautiful deeds, to lift it higher in Masonic ideals, I must let it stand as it is. The task assigned me has been a most pleasant one, filled with contacts with my Companions which have enriched my life and studded the hours with jewels of happiness. To the best of my ability I have met the responsibilities and performed the duties, and in that effort I have felt that spiritual uplift which is the reward of service in Masonry. What greater reward can anyone have than this? If the perspective of the year shall so show, then indeed will my cup of happiness be running over."

He constituted two Chapters and instituted three.

Of the Order of De Molay he says:—

"To my mind this constructive work, initiated by the Wisconsin Grand Chapter, has more than vindicated the judgment of those who urged upon us the adoption of this movement as a practical exemplification of our interests in the future lives of the boys and an ardent desire to assist in creating an environment which shall aid in building character.

"As in all work of this character, not every attempt to establish the De Molay Order has met with success, and in some instances the accomplishment has been far from the ideal where the organization has been chartered.

"I recognize the self-sacrifice which must characterize those Masons who are selected to personally supervise the affairs of the Order in a community. On their shoulders has been placed a burden which must not be belittled."

Of the Committee on Correspondence he gives this commendation:—

"Much valuable information may be gained by careful reading of it, and no Companion interested in Capitular Masonry can afford to ignore it."

He speaks of the issue between the late General Grand High Priest and the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin and very fairly cites the comment of M. Ex. Comp. Kuhn as follows:—

"In concluding this portion of his address he said: 'If the General Grand Chapter is merely a confederacy of independent Grand Chapters, without any bond of cohesion, then the sooner we disband the better it will be. It is a mere farce to meet triennially, elect a General Grand High Priest and present him with a jewel of office. If the General Grand Chapter has no other purpose than a mere conference, then why not elect a temporary president who will preside during the conference? The General Grand High Priest must be something or nothing.'"

The Committee on Jurisprudence, however, of the General Grand Chapter would not go so far and appear to have upheld Wisconsin as the following paragraph shows:—

"The General Grand High Priest can only act, except as its presiding officer, when the Grand Chapter is not in session. He then has power to exercise and discharge its executive functions. He is limited in his action by the powers of the General Grand Chapter, and only such edicts issued by him as conform with those powers are binding upon the Grand Chapters of its allegiance.

"The Committee recommended that the decisions be not concurred in, which recommendation was adopted."

The result is embodied in the following:—

"The Grand Chapter of Wisconsin is the supreme authority on Capitular law and usages within its Jurisdiction and has sole control of its fraternal relations."

Comp. Kellar concludes as follows:—

“And now I come to the close of a year of delightful responsibility and wonderful duty, and submit this review of my activities, unafraid of your verdict, because during the years I have been closely associated with you I have felt the inspiring touch of your brotherly love and consideration.”

The Committee on Obituaries says:—

“There is a Reaper whose name is Death, who has been going to and fro through our Grand Jurisdiction, and two hundred and ninety of our beloved Companions, having heard His call, laid aside their working tools of life and presented their life work to the Grand Council of the Universe for inspection. May they have heard from the Great High Priest of our Salvation: ‘True and faithful Craftsman you surely are, enter into the Joy of thy Lord.’”

The Report of the Deputy Grand High Priest on his visit to the General Grand Chapter is very interesting and as usual is full of the personality of the late Dr. Kuhn, of whose inspiring work he says:—

“‘Have we,’ he asked, ‘contributed even a little of thought to the civilization of to-day? Have the intellectual, moral and spiritual forces been quickened? Has Royal Arch Masonry since its formation into an organization one hundred and twenty-seven years ago been any force, any influence to relieve this old world of its turmoil and strife?’”

Of the young men one of the State Deputies speaks as follows:—

“I ask you to consider what the Catholics are doing for their young men, and then answer to yourselves whether we can afford to do less for our own. It isn’t fair to say, ‘De Molay, we have started you, now you must shift for yourselves and be self-supporting.’ Remember, this organization is composed of young men who for the most part have not reached the earning age of their lives.”

No less than fifteen Past Grand High Priests received the grand honors to which they were entitled for their rank and fidelity.

Canada was represented by Comp. David Harlowe, of Milwaukee.

M. Ex. Comp. Jenks moved that allegiance to the General Grand Chapter be severed. A motion was made that this resolution be held over, but the

records do not show what the result of the main motion was.

\$750, one-half the sum asked was appropriated for the De Molay work.

R. Ex. Comp. William J. Wadsworth, of Toronto, represents Wisconsin.

Comp. Samuel Wright has the Correspondence Review in Charge, and he thus indicates his brief but comprehensive method of treatment:—

“As heretofore, we shall endeavour to limit our efforts merely to calling attention to such instances occurring in the Capitalar world as in our judgment will interest our Companions.”

California suggests some problems and questions which he does not hesitate to voice:—

“It was resolved that the Grand Chapter should not hold its sessions in ‘Holy Week’ hereafter. We know of no Masonic ‘Holy Week, and as nearly every religion has a ‘Holy Week’ peculiar to its sect and as Masonry favors no religious denomination we do not know just what they mean. It would seem, however, that some sect predominated in that body.

“Why all this paternalism? Cannot the Chapters be entrusted to do their own business? What benefit is all this stuff, or is it otherwise? If we judge from the table given in their Proceedings, page 144, where we are informed that but 20 per cent. of the Master Masons of their state are on their Capitular rolls while in our state without these paternal commercialisms we have 44 per cent.”

Canada 1924 is briefly treated and we hope to give him more matter for comment next time.

Under England we find the following:—

“At the November meeting ten new Chapters were warranted, nine in England and one in Zanzibar, East Africa. At the February, ten in England, one in Buenos Aires, and one in Bagdad. At the May, thirteen in England, one in New South Wales. At the August meeting, ten in England and three in South Africa.”

Manitoba suggests this comment to our confrères:—

“But unfortunately some Masonic Bodies, impressed with its financial convenience, have embraced it, thereby reducing themselves to be mere commercial enterprises, pure and simple..

"Hence as to Companions unfortunate, 'caused through the depression in business in this Province,' he commends Chapters for 'firing' them and says, 'This action of the subordinate Chapters will undoubtedly prove *beneficial* to our Order, because *drones* are not wanted in hives of Masonry.'

"Certainly a modern phase of Masonic charity."

Maryland, the gentle, receives these comments:—

"The Grand High Priest declined to grant a Dispensation to a Chapter to receive the 'petition of a brother who had two artificial feet.' Whether his objection reaches to 'artificial teeth' we are not informed.

"They have an ingenious thumb screw, sans pain, they inflict on violators of their perpetual dues canon."

From the conclusion we derive this outlook:—

"The death of General Grand High Priest Kuhn is an irreparable loss to Royal Arch Masonry. No one has done more toward placing the Royal Arch on its feet as a *sublime* reality than did this Grand Old Mason. Though the ritual upon which he spent so much of his life, was not adopted by all, yet its august principles have permeated Chapter Masonry to the dismay of the devotees of 'Horse play' and 'rough stuff.'

"We notice that some of the Grand Bodies are indulging in paternal legislation even so far as dictating the financial course of their subordinates. One Grand High Priest says we find 'too wide a variety in annual dues.'

"We have no such laws, yet our roster possesses 40 per cent. of the Master Masons of the State (the largest percentage on record), and is among the smallest losers by N.P.D."

Harry P. De Baufer, Wauwatosa, Grand High Priest.

William W. Perry, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

WYOMING.

Neil David Nelson, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Membership, 2,143.

Net gain, 15.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation was held at Casper, June 9, 1925. Six Past Grand High Priests were present in the East.

A M. Ex. Companion directed the attention of the Grand High Priest to the display of the three

Lesser Lights at the altar. After research the following embraces the result:—

“The Grand Secretary, searching further, read a decision approved by the General Grand Chapter in 1906, to the effect that the Three Great Lights in Masonry are the only requisites needed for display on the Altar, whereupon the Grand High Priests ordered the Lesser Lights removed.”

No less than three Past Grand High Priests were absent on a trip to Alaska and a telegram from Skagway sent greetings from that far north west.

Grand Commander Hepner of the Knights Templar was cordially welcomed.

Canada has the honour of being represented by Richard H. Repath, Grand Secretary and Grand Correspondent, who was of course present at the seat of duty.

With regard to Grand Representatives generally the Grand High Priest thus expressed himself:—

“The Grand High Priest deplored the apparent lack of interest manifested. He made an urgent plea for better attendance as also for closer relations with their respective Grand Jurisdictions.”

From his annual address we make these interesting excerpts:—

“Meeting the Masonic Fraternity of Casper, located in the midst of the leading oil centre of the world, where oil flows and is refined in great abundance, it is needless for me to anticipate other than the most harmonious and profitable session in the history of this Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, this being assured because of the high standing of the Fraternity in whose city we have met.

“I feel, however, that if the message I issued a year ago at the close of our Annual Convocation to the constituent Chapters of Wyoming has been observed, viz.: To respect the things that are sacred and holy and exemplify the work in accordance with the spirit of our new ritual, without levity but with dignity, solemnity and reverence, I have accomplished something worth while. The beautiful lessons taught in the work of the Capitular degrees are too sublime to be exemplified in any other manner.

“Companions will remember seeing one bright star in Masonry, Dr. Kuhn, of whom it has been justly said: ‘He was all in all the greatest American Freemason of his generation.’”

From the prayer of commemoration inserted in the address by the Grand Chaplain we take this urgent plea:—

“And to us, who are still in our pilgrimage, grant, O Lord, such wisdom and understanding, such strength and loyalty, such beauty of harmony and holiness that our building may be acceptable in Thy sight, and that finally in the land of light and joy we may find fellowship with Thee and Thy faithful servants who have gone before.”

The Grand High Priest is fond of the symbolism of numbers as illustrated in the following triple coincidence:—

“First, it was my duty and would have been a great pleasure to perform the ceremony of constituting and consecrating Gillette Chapter, No. 17; Second, your Grand High Priest came to Wyoming to make his home therein during his seventeenth year; and, Third, the present Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter is the seventeenth of its history. To well-informed Masons, the triple numeral has an extensive and sacred meaning and no true Mason will permit himself to remain ignorant of its significance.”

From the conclusion we take these worthy words:—

“May our aim be to secure quality rather than numbers, for a dozen men firmly united in one sacred band can accomplish far more good for the noble cause for which we stand than hundreds of members who are indifferent and lukewarm. Life is a serious proposition, and our duty as Royal Arch Masons is no less serious.”

From the Grand Secretary's able report we learn that a storage room has been fitted with extensive shelving, protected with doors, for the safe-keeping of the many thousands of printed Proceedings, and with regard to the Library, with which it is connected, he says:—

“The Grand Library proper is furnished with glass cases, and the printed Proceedings of all Jurisdictions are available for convenient reference, with earlier years readily accessible.

“The foundation for a Grand Library as thus established is in line with the custom of all States, and it is a matter for congratulation that the opportunity was afforded to secure the accommodation.”

Of his trip to Maine of the Triennial he says:—

"The trip, while long, was interesting. From the Rockies of the West to the coast of Maine is a far cry and a wonderful change in both climate and scenery."

He describes vividly and racily the wonderful dinner tendered to the Guild of Grand Secretaries in which the East welcomed the West with steamed clams, full-grown boiled lobster, water melon and ice-cream, and thus comments:—

"Strange to say, no evil effects followed, due undoubtedly to a good conscience and an appetite whetted by the salt breezes."

The Guild is described as having:—

"Membership composed of a very high class of men and Masons hailing from all quarters of the globe, and that although without the power of compulsory legislation, wielded great power in the deliberations of the Craft. Grand Secretaries or Grand Recorders, as the case may be, he said, usually enjoyed the fullest confidence of their presiding officers and the membership of their respective bodies."

With regard to attached or rather semi-detached Orders he says:—

"Various organizations were enumerated as having for their basis Masonic membership and for which the Grand Lodges are not responsible, taking the position that sooner or later the Grand Lodge would be forced for self-protection to assert their masonic authority by way of giving or withholding approval."

Owing to the absence of three Grand High Priests, the Order of Grand High Priesthood did not meet.

Ex. Comp. David H. McCracken, of Port Colborne, represents Wyoming near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

An excellent portrait of the late Dr. Kuhn and his official biography and Masonic career introduces the In Memoriam pages.

The review of other Jurisdictions by Comp. Repath is full of matter.

In his introduction he says:—

"Customs and practices of interest to the membership of Wyoming found in the various Jurisdictions throughout the Capitular world are set forth in the following reviews for

comparison with our own, as such we deem to be the primary object of the work, and Companions desiring to keep abreast of Capitular affairs should not neglect to read them.

"Conferring the Royal Arch by raising the standard of work to comport with the dignity and beauty inherent therein; the establishment of a higher standard of efficiency among the officers of constituent Chapters; and the consolidating of memberships by weeding out the weak and undesirable timber accepted during the 'inflation period.'"

Under General Grand Chapter 1924 he quotes:—

"I am not unmindful of the pathos which marks our gathering here to-day. With a suddenness and a gentleness that are awe-inspiring, the Angel of Death, who is none other than the Ambassador of the Larger Life, called from the earthly life that genial personality whom we expected to preside here to-day.

"But Dr. Kuhn is not dead; there is no death in the Kingdom of God!

"Is the world better because 800,000 Royal Arch Masons having lived and added something to the age's needs,, in deeds of loving kindness and joy?" answered the question in the following language:—

"The doctrine of hearts made lighter and lives made brighter will outlive all abstract speculation, all official distinction, and all self-aggrandizement. The Freemason of the future will worry, and write less over what may constitute the 'Ancient Landmarks,' but will believe that the three essential landmarks of faith in God, hope in immortality, and the daily application of the Golden Rule, are more important."

Among the decisions given at Portland were the following:—

"That a Chapter in the Canal Zone could not receive petitions from seamen resident in New York without waiver from the latter."

"That a member delinquent in dues cannot be denied the right to vote unless legally suspended therefor.

"That the rule of a parliamentary body resolving itself into a committee of the whole, does not apply to Masonic bodies."

He speaks highly of the Guild composed of the Executive Officers of all Grand Chapters and says:—

"When the members of this unique organization get together (unfortunately too infrequently) the discussion of matters Masonic is educating to the nth degree, developing side lines of exceeding interest to the new members. Undoubtedly it would be impossible to gather a group of men

whose intimate knowledge of the Craft is more profound. The meetings being divested of the formality attending Conventions, tend to develop a refreshing informality in Masonic discussions."

Calling attention to a mistake by Wisconsin in allocating Chairmanships he says, and we sympathize with Wisconsin also:—

"Mindful of our own exhausted mental condition upon reaching the Proceedings of the last Grand Chapter in our long list, we are ever tolerant of errors in a review of Wyoming, and simply call the attention of the distinguished reviewer to the facts."

Canada is generously reviewed. He refers to the 500 Companions present at the banquet and at the degrees exemplified under the Principal's Association of Toronto witnessed by over 700 Companions.

He speaks of Comp. Spencer's official address as "prefaced with sentiments of the highest character," and he then proceeds to summarize it with admirable concentration.

Of our own Grand Scribe E. and of ourselves he says:—

"An interesting and informative report is presented by R. Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E. We had the pleasure of meeting this distinguished Companion at the Triennial Convocation of our General Grand Chapter held in Portland, Maine, in 1924, and again while in Toronto had the pleasure of visiting him at his official headquarters, and formed a high opinion of his personality and ability in his chosen work.

"An illuminating report upon the condition of the Royal Craft in Canada was submitted by M. Ex. Comp. Ponton.

"The report on Fraternal Correspondence is presented by Comp. Ponton, and is an able review of the Jurisdictions included. Wyoming seems to have been left out in the cold, although the writer recalls the mailing of three copies of our Proceedings to the Grand Scribe E. We have heretofore considered the postal facilities of the Dominion a model of efficiency, but that fact and that our report as Grand Representative also failed to reach Companion Smith, incline us to doubt this."

In 1925 we atoned for this omission.

From Manitoba he takes this outstanding paragraph—which makes us proud of our daughter:—

"I don't think it any exaggeration to say that in almost every community throughout this Province of ours the men

of prominence—the men of repute—are practically, without exception, members of the Craft. No matter how sharply they differ on social and political matters—and we Westerners have the reputation of holding strong opinions, Freemasonry affords a forum, where every month, in this Province alone, thousands of just and upright men meet upon a common level. Their differences are forgotten, distinctions are laid aside, the highest principles of virtue and morality are expounded and exemplified, and consciously or unconsciously a unanimity of thought and opinion is developed that, no matter how it may fluctuate on political and social matters, comes at once to a clear focus, without a single diverging ray where any moral question is involved, or any matter of right or wrong.”

Quebec gives him and us the following:—

“So the Royal Arch is part of the Master Mason degree, and we owe it to every Master Mason to see that he is enlightened on this subject. He is in search of the eternal truth and he ought to get it.”

Scotland appeals to him, especially the banquet at the Vernal Equinox, and he quotes:—

“A toast to the ancient city of Edinburgh, whose history is of course the history of Scotland—in the words of Burns:

“Edina! Scotia’s darling seat!
All hail thy palaces and towers,
Where once beneath a monarch’s feet
Sat Legislation’s sovereign powers!”

was responded to by the Lord Provost Sleight in a most happy vein. He referred to the occasion as one of the ‘liveliest and jolliest meetings’ since his elevation to the civic

“Intermingled with the various toasts were sung the songs of romance and chivalry so dear to the hearts of the Scots.”

The review of Victoria closes thus:—

“He pertinently called attention to the necessity of a Tyler of a Lodge being ‘judiciously selected for his possession of the fine instincts of a gentleman,’ pointing out the importance of first impressions upon a candidate.”

The Eighteenth Annual Convocation will be held in Cheyenne, July 15, 1925.

Edward D. Edwards, Lander, M. Ex. Grand High Priest.

Richard H. Repath, Cheyenne, R. Ex. Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION.

We Canadian Masons of 'this true North' gratefully appreciate the many kindly references to our Proceedings by our Fellow Craftsmen, and cordially reciprocate their good greetings and good will. And at the same time we value their admonitions. While far and near, in our concentric circles, we Royal Arch Masons keep in touch with that centre from which we cannot err, yet year by year we expand our mental researches, our friendly visitations, in our quest for the best. Everywhere we give, we receive, we share generously and hospitably. We Masons do not live as exclusive units in air-tight compartments, nor in or for the present alone, for we realize that the house of light has truly three windows looking out on the path of the past, the way of the present, the road of the future. There is no real clash between old and new ideals, between traditional and modern conceptions. Masonry, like law, must square with life and aid and elevate and fortify human beings. This is the social science of service—"I am a part of all that I have met" has taken on a more potential significance. Through the Radio and the Wireless and the miracles of modern invention, this whole round world is becoming a great Whispering Gallery and Hall of Mirrors, and the English language, in which genuine non-political Masonry seems to find its truest expression, bids fair to be the universal language of friendly intercourse. May we all be attuned to our neighbours' wave lengths and may we more and more enjoy together the sanity and serenity of true and elevating fellowship. "If we walk *in the light* we have fellowship one with the other." May our Colleagues of the Round Table, the interpreters and historians of the Royal Craft, and may all those whom they so faithfully, sympathetically and excellently represent, have "joy in all their deeds and days, time for the task, wisdom for the work, peace in the pathway, friends for the fireside and love to the last!"

The clock of passing time again chimes the annual parting hour, and with it we keep another of our many appointments with Eternity. So mote it be.

WILLIAM NISBET PONTON, P.G.Z.

Belleville, Canada, February, 1926.

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Grand Lodge Library



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